



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 169

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2023

No. 15

House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ROSENDALE).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
January 24, 2023.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MATTHEW M. ROSENDALE, Sr. to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

WE MUST ALL STAND FOR LIFE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, there is a reason that we hold our law enforcement, our firefighters, and our paramedics in such high esteem. It is because these men and women are called to protect human life.

As a doctor, I swore an oath to first do no harm, and to protect the sanctity of human life, working to care for those who are vulnerable.

Here in Congress, we also swore an oath to protect our country and to protect our citizens, and that means that we must all stand for life.

I am proud to stand for those who protect human life at all costs. I am proud to have cast my vote in favor of the Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, and the Senate must urgently take up this important piece of legislation to protect human life.

Mr. Speaker, we are all called to love children who are created in the image of God. This Nation must bind together and work to protect all of those, both born and unborn, and this Congress must always stand for human life.

NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this week, we celebrate National School Choice Week, and recognize that parents have the right to choose the school that is best for their children.

For the past 3 years, we have seen lockdowns and curriculum that failed to provide American students with the education that they so desperately need and want. American 9 year-olds have now lost two decades of progress in math and reading after prolonged school shutdowns and closings.

It is clear that parents need to, once again, have a greater say in their children's education. To make sure that that happens, Congress must act to protect these parents by passing the Parents Bill of Rights.

Parents have the right to know what their children are being taught in school. Parents have the right to see their child's school budget and the spending. Parents have the right to protect their children's privacy and to ensure that their children are safe in school.

Congress must commit to passing legislation that puts students and parents first. Let's work to recover the education that was lost during the school shutdowns, and let's work to

create a future that is built on freedom. Freedom for students, freedom for parents, and freedom for families.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ANDY MORRIS, JR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of Andy Morris, Jr.

Andy was the son of the late George Randall Morris, Sr., and Tami Benjamin Gane. He grew up in a loving home and was the oldest of three siblings.

Throughout his life, Andy was always very involved with athletics. He was a longtime member of the Brunswick Country Club and, in high school, was a three-sport athlete.

After high school, Andy attended Valdosta State University, and then began his career with the creation of Skippers' Fish Camp. Skippers' Fish Camp became a wildly successful restaurant and one of my favorite places to eat.

Above all, Andy loved being a father to his children, Tripp and Addie. Andy will be remembered as a loving father that always wanted the very best for his children.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Andy and with his family.

RECOGNIZING FIRST BRYAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize First Bryan Baptist Church in Savannah, Georgia.

For more than 200 years, First Bryan Baptist Church has been an important cornerstone for the Savannah community. This year, the church is celebrating its 235th anniversary.

In fact, the First Bryan Baptist Church is considered one of the oldest African-American Baptist churches in the United States. The church is

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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named for the original pastor, an enslaved man, Andrew Bryan.

To celebrate the anniversary, members of the congregation put on a play that showed the history of the church's founding.

The new pastor-elect, Reverend Christopher Pittman, will be the church's 20th pastor in its long-storied history.

Congratulations, First Bryan Baptist Church, on this wonderful anniversary. I hope your next 235 years are as successful as your first.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF TOM FANNING

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tom Fanning of the Southern Company.

Tom is the current chairman of the board, CEO, and president of Southern Company. For more than 42 years, Tom's excellent leadership has helped mold Southern Company into the great company it is today.

Tom has been responsible for leading the Nation's new nuclear initiative while at Southern Company. He has overseen the installation of two state-of-the-art units in Georgia, adding more than 4,000 megawatts of renewable energy since 2012.

Southern Company is the only U.S. energy provider investing in an all-of-the-above approach to America's energy future.

I thank Tom for his decades of service and leadership to Southern Company, the First District of Georgia, and our country.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BEBE FLYNN

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of Bebe Flynn.

Bebe was born in Lenoir City, Tennessee, in 1921. While living in Lenoir City, Bebe and her family were some of the few Catholics in town. In fact, a priest traveled to say mass once a month in their home. Maintaining her faith was always a strong focus for her.

After high school, Bebe attended Saint Mary's Memorial Hospital School of Nursing in Knoxville, Tennessee, graduating as a registered nurse in October of 1943.

In 1945, she married her childhood friend and high school boyfriend, John Flynn.

In 2013, Bebe was the first recipient of Saint Patrick's of the Bishop's Award for her significant contributions to the parish as a volunteer.

Bebe and her husband, John, loved to travel in retirement, often with retirees from Denison.

She made friends where she went and was known for always keeping an upbeat attitude in life. She will be dearly missed by all those who knew her.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF RUSSELL PEARCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I honor the life and legacy of Russell Pearce, a constituent, a colleague, a patriot, and a dear friend. Russell passed January 5, 2023, in Mesa, Arizona.

A fifth-generation Arizonan with a deep pioneer heritage, Russell was born June 23, 1947, to Hal and Norma Pearce in Mesa, Arizona. Russell had humble roots, but was raised by a loving, hard-working mother who taught him that he could make his own path in the world.

Driven by his faith, he knew that the principles of our divinely inspired founding documents established the United States of America as a bastion of liberty and peace. This belief ignited a sense of duty that led Russell to a life of success through service to his community, his State, and his country.

He first answered the call to serve in 1965 when he joined the Arizona National Guard during the Vietnam conflict. He served honorably until 1972, and, in the interim, joined the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, being sworn in as a deputy in 1970.

Law enforcement was in Russell's blood, as his ancestor, Joe Pearce, had been one of the original Arizona Rangers. Two of his own sons, Sean and Colten, have followed Russell's example, joining the MCSO and also the Gilbert Police Department, respectively.

In protecting his community, Russell demonstrated unrivaled toughness, courage, and dedication to duty. In 1977, while pursuing known gang members through a Phoenix suburb, one of them turned and fired. Russell was shot through the hand and chest, losing a finger. However, though wounded, Russell raced after the criminals and arrested them before seeking medical treatment.

He received the Medal of Valor for his actions, the department's highest honor. Russell's tenacity and excellence led to steady promotions, eventually reaching the level of captain.

After his first stint at MCSO, Russell was elected to his public office as justice of the peace for Mesa's new north justice district in 1991. He earned a reputation of trust from Mesa's citizens and public officials.

He rejoined MCSO when he was appointed MCSO's chief deputy in 1993 by America's toughest sheriff, Joe Arpaio. Serving as chief deputy for the largest law enforcement organization in Arizona and the fourth largest in the United States was a monumental task.

Russell developed not only a love of but a true talent for public policy. He crafted and successfully implemented major reforms aimed at cutting millions in taxpayer costs and reducing offender recidivism.

His success as chief deputy led to his appointment as director of the Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety, where he led the Motor Vehicle Division. He created ServiceArizona.com, a first-in-the-Nation web service that made registration faster and simpler for Arizona motorists and exponentially reduced wait times and costs.

Of course, Russell is best known, nationally and locally, for his work in the Arizona State Legislature. He served for 11 years representing North Mesa in the Arizona State House first, and then the Arizona Senate.

While in the senate, Russell demonstrated the foresight to tackle the biggest challenges facing Arizona and its citizens. I was honored to serve with him and call him my friend and colleague.

Russell authored and introduced important legislation designed to shrink government. Ultimately, he was elected senate president and worked steadfastly to advance legislation that promoted the principles and values important to Arizonans: the right to life, the sanctity of marriage, defense of our southern border, and reverence for the Constitution and God-given liberties.

At times, Russell's courage to bring these issues to the front placed Arizona in front of national issues, such as the passage of S.B. 1070, which allowed, among other provisions, State and local enforcement of immigration law. That took foresight. It took immense courage to be the face of that legislation.

Russell Pearce was ahead of his time. With the current overwhelming crisis at our southern border, we see that States take the brunt of the consequences when the Federal Government fails to enforce our laws and protect our citizens.

Millions of Arizonans are freer, safer, and more prosperous thanks to Russell Pearce's courageous and farsighted leadership in addressing difficult public policies. Freedom-loving Americans across this great country enjoy the fruits of his efforts, thanks to their respective States modeling legislation after those crafted under Russell's leadership.

His professional and political legacy is truly unmatched and is only outshone by his love of God and service to his church, his loyalty to the country he loved and, most importantly, his beautiful family that survives him: his wife, LuAnne; his 5 children and 13 grandchildren.

To quote Russell himself:

"You know where my heart is. You know it is with this great Republic of ours and its freedom-loving citizens. I believe God had His hand in making America. We have the greatest document ever written by wise and virtuous men and the greatest country in the world because of freedom-loving people like you, the freedom-loving people of America. I, for one, will continue to fight to protect your freedoms from government encroachment. It is America's commitment to that freedom, personal responsibility, and moral government that makes us strong."

Rest in peace, Russell, and God bless LuAnne and the Pearce family.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from

Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National School Choice Week and the importance of school choice.

I was proud to join my colleague, Senator TIM SCOTT of South Carolina, in introducing the CHOICE Act last Congress, which would expand the school choice options and programs for elementary and secondary school children. I look forward to working together again on similar legislation.

I was also proud to join Representative JOHN MOOLENAAR last week on his resolution to designate this week as National School Choice Week.

In Iowa, we recognize that every child learns and processes information differently, and we have empowered parents and students to choose the school best suited to their needs.

We are fortunate to have Governor Kim Reynolds, who is leading the Nation in school choice policy, and who has been a strong advocate for school choice throughout her tenure.

□ 1215

During the COVID-19 pandemic, many children were forced to transition to virtual learning while some private schools stayed open. Unfortunately, this resulted in a significant drop in testing averages across core subjects like reading comprehension and math.

This proved, in some instances, that public schools weren't able to adapt to the needs of each individual student. However, some students in private or charter schools were able to excel because of smaller class sizes or specialized education tailored to their strengths.

I am honored to represent a State where we put parents first, where parents matter, and where parents have a right to a say in their children's education instead of Washington bureaucrats. As a mother of two, I understand how important it is to ensure that your children receive the best education possible.

I will continue to fight for school choice to ensure every child in America has a chance to succeed in the best possible learning environment. Our children deserve nothing less.

I would also like to wish a happy birthday to my nephew. Happy birthday, Andrew.

I would like to extend birthday wishes to Nicholas Pottebaum, one of my very first campaign volunteers and now a health policy adviser to Senator GRASSLEY. Happy birthday, Nick.

REMEMBERING THE HONORABLE JIM KOLBE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. CISCOMANI) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor James Thomas Kolbe, an Arizonan, a decorated Navy veteran,

and a patriot who faithfully served my State and our country for most of his life.

James Thomas Kolbe always introduced himself as Jim, and that is how he will be remembered by all those who knew him and those in this Chamber who were his colleagues.

For 22 years, Jim also was well known in his hometown of Tucson and here in the Nation's Capitol by the position he held—Congressman.

Congressman Kolbe died on December 3 at the age of 80. He led a long, accomplished life, and I am honored, truly honored, to hold the House seat he held for 11 terms.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great privilege as a new Member of the United States House of Representatives to offer this tribute to a man I considered a friend, a mentor, and a role model.

Jim was an elder statesman of Arizona politics. He was a proven vote-getter who knew how to build coalitions to achieve real results for his district, his State, and our Nation. He knew how to get things done in Washington but never forgot who sent him here and why. He was a tireless advocate for Arizona, and he brought that unique Arizona perspective to public policy debates for which this body is so well known.

Jim served alongside giants and, in the process, became one himself. Barry Goldwater, Mo Udall, Ed Pastor, John McCain, Jon Kyl—Jim knew and worked with them all. In fact, Jim got his first taste of politics as a young man serving as a page for the legendary Senator Goldwater, who was in his final term when the voters of what was then Arizona's Fifth Congressional District chose Jim to be their voice in Washington.

Jim was born in Illinois, the Land of Lincoln, but became a champion of the party of Lincoln in Arizona. He came to the Grand Canyon State when he was 5 with his parents when he left the Midwest for a ranch in the desert of southern Arizona, just a few miles from the border with Mexico.

Little did Jim know back then that our country's relationship with Mexico would become one of his signature issues as a Representative from a border State. Jim was a celebrity in the big small town of Tucson.

No matter where he went, everyone knew him. Folks would approach him in the grocery store, at the gas station, or on the street. When they stopped him and called him Congressman Kolbe, he would always make sure to remind them, "Just call me Jim."

I first met Jim when I was a student at Pima Community College. He was my hometown Representative. We continued our relationship long after that first meeting over two decades ago.

Jim gave me wise advice when I first decided to run for his former seat. I will always remember our regular catch-up meetings at Millie's Pancake Haus on the east side of town.

Jim was someone who came to the House not for a big title but to do big

things, and he did just that. He was an expert on trade and became one of the chief architects of the original North American Free Trade Agreement, which he was convinced was a key that opened the door to prosperity.

Fiscal responsibility was important to Jim. Our environment was important to Jim. Water was important to Jim. He was never reluctant to work across the aisle.

Jim was everything a Representative should be. He understood that the word "Representative" was not a job title; it was a job description, and that is why he came back to Tucson nearly every weekend to hear firsthand what was on people's minds.

Jim, my friend, on behalf of the men and women of our little corner of Arizona, thank you. Thank you for your service. Thank you for your steadfast commitment to making our district, our State, and our Nation a better place.

My prayers are with Hector and the Kolbe family.

RECOGNIZING PETE McClymont

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Third District native Pete McClymont for his contributions to the Nebraska beef industry.

Pete was raised on a farm and ranching operation near Holdrege, Nebraska, and has maintained a lifelong commitment to growing the Nebraska cattle business and advancing the State as a leader in agriculture.

With steadfast excellence, Pete has fostered growth in numerous sectors of agribusiness in Nebraska and recently announced his retirement after 25 years of service in several roles with the Nebraska Cattlemen, including the last 10 as the organization's executive vice president.

Nebraska's first nickname was "The Beef State," and Pete's list of accomplishments in maintaining that reputation is long. Despite having to navigate the difficult conditions of disasters, drought, and market challenges, Nebraska's beef industry is better for his leadership, and we continue to be grateful for his outstanding service.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 22 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WALTZ) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

O infinite one, Your love for us is great. You who are rich in mercy, bend Your ear to us and hear our prayers. Draw near to us this day and allow us to experience Your generous and forgiving embrace and to receive Your manifold kindness.

Then may we respond with the faith of our hearts and not just the ideas from our heads, for nothing we can conceive in our minds will come anywhere near to the devotion You desire of us. Help us to trust You with our innermost being and not just rely on the work of our hands, for the tasks You set before us are best accomplished when we yield our wills to Yours and align our efforts with Your grace plan.

For we are what You have made us to be. We are each unique witnesses to Your handiwork, created to do the good work You have called us to do.

Grant that all of us this day demonstrate the faith and trust You deserve in all that You have prepared for us. Then may our lives serve to glorify You as we call upon Your name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

FAMILIES FIGHTING INFLATION
AND DEBT IN 2023

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last year was difficult for the American family. Under disastrous policies of Biden and the Democrat-led Congress, inflation reached 40-year highs, causing everyday prices to skyrocket.

December marked the 21st straight month that inflation was higher than real wages. As a result, Americans are relying on credit cards as payment, and nearly half are carrying debt from month to month, up 39 percent from last year, according to Bankrate.

Credit card balances increased 15 percent versus last year, the largest increase in more than 20 years, according to a recent quarterly report of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

When Biden took office in 2021, inflation was 1.4 percent, but it has risen nearly 14 percent since then, destroying jobs.

The House Republican majority is committed to fighting inflation and lowering the cost of living, creating jobs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops who successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism continues, moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America.

Our sympathy to the family of Tom Young, Sr., of Aiken, South Carolina.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF
CAPTAIN JOHNATHAN BENTON

(Mr. ELLZEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I come before the House of Representatives to honor the legacy of Captain Johnathan Benton. Captain Benton tragically lost his life on January 16, 2023, in a small plane crash.

Johnathan was a man of service. He served our country faithfully for over 25 years in the Air Force. During that time, he was a command pilot with over 4,000 hours in the C-130 and KC-135. He was also an instructor and evaluator pilot.

He spent over 750 days deployed in support of conflicts in Bosnia, Afghanistan, and Iraq. He eventually retired as a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force's Air National Guard for the State of Oklahoma.

After his time in the military, Johnathan served as the Government Affairs Committee chairman for CAPA as well as the Allied Pilots Association.

Johnathan never stopped serving our country. Through his role as chairman for CAPA and APA, he continued to advocate on behalf of Americans.

To his wife, Bridget, and two children, Nathan and Ashlynn Marie, I am

truly sorry. Your husband and father was a great man. He had a great big heart and loved you all dearly. What he gave our country cannot be summed up in a 1-minute speech, but the legacy he leaves and the good works he has done will last forever.

DEFENDING THE SECOND
AMENDMENT

(Mr. MCCORMICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in defense of the Second Amendment, which is, once again, under attack by the unelected Federal bureaucrats in Washington.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives is seeking to reclassify firearms with pistol braces as short-barreled rifles, a classification which threatens to make criminals of tens of millions of law-abiding Americans who have already purchased these.

The extra red tape, fees, and registrations that the ATF wants to require is an unnecessary punishment for shooting enthusiasts who purchased perfectly legal accessories to their legal firearms.

This follows a long pattern we have seen for decades in Washington's antigun, unconstitutional policies, which could never make it through Congress as a law that is imposed upon the public through the rule-making process.

Americans are tired of unelected Federal agencies spending their tax dollars attacking and curtailing the constitutional rights of law-abiding citizens.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 8 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1730

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WITTMAN) at 5 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

CHANCE TO COMPETE ACT OF 2023

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 159) to implement merit-based reforms to the civil service hiring system that replace degree-based hiring with skills- and competency-based hiring, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 159

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Chance to Compete Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

(a) **TERMS DEFINED IN SECTION 3304 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE.**—In this Act, the terms “agency”, “Director”, “examining agency”, “Office”, “subject matter expert”, and “technical assessment” have the meanings given those terms in subsection (c)(1) of section 3304 of title 5, United States Code, as added by section 3(a).

(b) **OTHER TERMS.**—In this Act, the term “competitive service” has the meaning given the term in section 2102 of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 3. DEFINING THE TERM “EXAMINATION” FOR PURPOSES OF HIRING IN THE COMPETITIVE SERVICE.

(a) **EXAMINATIONS; TECHNICAL ASSESSMENTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 3304 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by redesignating subsections (c) through (f) as subsections (d) through (g), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) **EXAMINATIONS.**—

“(1) **DEFINITIONS.**—

“(A) **EXAMINATION.**—

“(i) In this chapter, the term ‘examination’—

“(I) means an opportunity to directly demonstrate knowledge, skills, abilities, and competencies, through a passing score assessment;

“(II) includes a résumé review that is—

“(aa) conducted by a subject matter expert; and

“(bb) based upon indicators that—

“(AA) are derived from a job analysis; and

“(BB) bear a rational relationship to performance in the position for which the examining agency is hiring; and

“(III) on and after the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of the Chance to Compete Act of 2023 does not include a self-assessment from an automated examination, a résumé review (except as provided in subclause (II)), or any other method of determining the experience or level of educational attainment of an individual, alone.

“(ii)(I) An agency’s Chief Human Capital Officer may waive clause (i)(III) when needed to enable the filling of a position or class of positions.

“(II) Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Chance to Compete Act of 2023, the Director shall provide agencies guidance and instruction on the data, evidence, and circumstances that Chief Human Capital Officers of agencies should consider in determining whether to grant a waiver under subclause (I).

“(III)(aa) An agency shall post any waiver granted under subclause (I) on a public website within 30 days of the granting of the waiver.

“(bb) A waiver shall not be considered in effect until it is posted on the public website pursuant to item (aa).

“(IV)(aa) Each agency shall submit to the Director on a semiannual basis a report summarizing the number of waivers granted by

the Chief Human Capital Officer of the agency under subclause (I) during the preceding 6-month period and the reasons therefor.

“(bb) The Director shall submit annually to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Accountability of the House of Representatives a report summarizing the number of waivers granted by the Chief Human Capital Officers of all agencies under subclause (I) during the preceding year and the reasons therefor provided by the agencies.

“(V) Not more than 10 percent of an agency’s positions filled through competitive hiring procedures during a fiscal year may be filled under the authority of a waiver granted under clause (I), and an agency shall obtain the Director’s approval to fill more than 5 percent of such positions under such authority.

“(B) **OTHER DEFINITIONS.**—In this subsection—

“(i) the term ‘agency’ means an agency described in section 901(b) of title 31;

“(ii) the term ‘Director’ means the Director of the Office;

“(iii) the term ‘examining agency’ means—

“(I) the Office; or

“(II) an agency to which the Director has delegated examining authority under section 1104(a)(2) of this title;

“(iv) the term ‘passing score assessment’ means an assessment that an individual can pass or fail;

“(v) the term ‘subject matter expert’ means an employee or selecting official—

“(I) who possesses understanding of the duties of, and knowledge, skills, and abilities required for, the position for which the employee or selecting official is developing or administering an assessment; and

“(II) whom the agency that employs the employee or selecting official designates to assist in the development and administration of technical assessments under paragraph (2); and

“(vi) the term ‘technical assessment’ means an assessment developed under paragraph (2)(A)(i) that—

“(I) allows for the demonstration of job-related technical skills, abilities, and knowledge;

“(II)(aa) is based upon a job analysis; and

“(bb) is relevant to the position for which the assessment is developed; and

“(III) may include—

“(aa) a structured interview;

“(bb) a work-related exercise;

“(cc) a custom or generic procedure used to measure an individual’s employment or career-related qualifications and interests; or

“(dd) another assessment that meets the criteria under subclauses (I) and (II).

“(2) **TECHNICAL ASSESSMENTS.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—For the purpose of conducting an examination for a position in the competitive service, an individual or individuals whom an agency determines to have an expertise in the subject and job field of the position, as affirmed and audited by the Chief Human Capital Officer or Human Resources Director (as applicable) of that agency, may—

“(i) develop, in partnership with human resources employees of the examining agency, a position-specific assessment that is relevant to the position; and

“(ii) administer the assessment developed under clause (i) to—

“(I) determine whether an applicant for the position has a passing score to be qualified for the position; or

“(II) rank applicants for the position for category rating purposes under section 3319.

“(B) **SHARING AND CUSTOMIZATION OF ASSESSMENTS.**—

“(i) **SHARING.**—An examining agency may share a technical assessment with another examining agency if each agency maintains appropriate control over examination material.

“(ii) **CUSTOMIZATION.**—An examining agency with which a technical assessment is shared under clause (i) may customize the assessment as appropriate, provided that the resulting assessment satisfies the requirements under part 300 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

“(iii) **PLATFORM FOR SHARING AND CUSTOMIZATION.**—

“(I) **IN GENERAL.**—The Director shall establish and operate an online platform on which examining agencies can share and customize technical assessments under this subparagraph.

“(II) **ONLINE PLATFORM.**—The Director shall ensure that the online platform described in subclause (I) includes the ability of its users to rate the utility of the content and technical assessments shared in the online platform to allow for a ranking of such contents.

“(3) **REGULATIONS.**—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of the Chance to Compete Act of 2023, the Office of Personnel Management shall prescribe regulations necessary for the administration of this subsection with respect to employees in each agency.”.

(2) **ALTERNATIVE RANKING AND SELECTION PROCEDURES.**—Section 3319(a) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following: “To be placed in a quality category under the preceding sentence, an applicant shall be required to have passed an examination in accordance with section 3304(b).”.

(3) **TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—Section 3330a(a)(1)(B) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking “section 3304(f)(1)” and inserting “section 3304(g)(1)”.

(b) **IMPLEMENTATION OF PASSING SCORE ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director and the head of any other examining agency shall eliminate the use of any examination for the competitive service that does not satisfy the definition of the term “examination” in subsection (c)(1)(A) of section 3304 of title 5, United States Code (as amended by subsection (a)(1)(B)).

(2) **REPORT REQUIRED.**—One year following the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall submit to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report examining agencies’ progress in implementing the requirement specified in paragraph (1), identifying any significant difficulties encountered in such implementation.

(c) **OPM REPORTING.**—

(1) **PUBLIC ONLINE TOOL.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall maintain and periodically update a publicly available online tool that, with respect to each position in the competitive service for which an examining agency examined applicants during the applicable period, includes—

(i) the type of assessment used, such as—

(I) a behavioral off-the-shelf assessment;

(II) a résumé review conducted by a subject matter expert;

(III) an interview conducted by a subject matter expert;

(IV) a technical off-the-shelf assessment; or

(V) a cognitive ability test;

(ii) whether or not the agency selected a candidate for the position; and

(iii) the hiring authority used to fill the position.

(B) TIMING.—

(i) INITIAL DATA.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall update the online tool described in subparagraph (A) with data for positions in the competitive service for which an examining agency examined applicants during the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and ending on the date of submission of the report.

(ii) SUBSEQUENT UPDATES.—Not later than October 1 of each fiscal year beginning after the date on which the online tool is initially updated under clause (i), the Director shall update the online tool described in subparagraph (A) with data for positions in the competitive service for which an examining agency examined applicants during the preceding fiscal year.

(2) ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Each year, the Director, in accordance with subparagraphs (B) and (C), shall make publicly available and submit to Congress an overall progress report that includes summary data from examinations that are closed, audited, and anonymous on the use of examinations (as defined in subsection (c)(1)(A) of section 3304 of title 5, United States Code, as added by subsection (a) of this section) for the competitive service, including technical assessments.

(B) CATEGORIES; BASELINE DATA.—In carrying out subparagraph (A), the Director shall—

(i) break the data down by applicant demographic indicator, including veteran status, race, gender, disability, and any other measure the Director determines appropriate; and

(ii) use the data available as of October 1, 2020, as a baseline.

(C) LIMITATIONS.—In carrying out subparagraph (A), the Director may only make publicly available and submit to Congress data relating to examinations for which—

- (i) the related announcement is closed;
- (ii) certificates have been audited; and
- (iii) all hiring processes are completed.

(d) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report that—

(1) assesses the implementation of this section and the amendments made by this section;

(2) assesses the impact and modifications to the hiring process for the competitive service made by this section and the amendments made by this section; and

(3) makes recommendations for the improvement of the hiring process for the competitive service.

SEC. 4. AMENDMENTS TO COMPETITIVE SERVICE ACT OF 2015.

(a) PLATFORMS FOR SHARING CERTIFICATES OF ELIGIBLES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3318(b) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “240-day” and inserting “1-year”;

(B) by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (6); and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

“(5) ONLINE TOOL FOR SHARING RÉSUMÉS OF INDIVIDUALS ON CERTIFICATES OF ELIGIBLES.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of the Chance to Compete Act of 2023, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall establish and operate an online tool on which an appointing authority can share, with other appointing authorities and the Chief Human Capital Officers Council established under section 1303 of the Chief Human Capital Officers Act of 2002 (5 U.S.C.

1401 note; Public Law 107–296), the résumés of individuals who are on a certificate of eligibles requested by the appointing authority. In carrying out this paragraph, the Director shall consult with the Chief Human Capital Officers Council and its membership to develop a plan to establish such online tool.”.

(2) PLAN.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall provide to Congress a plan to develop the online tool required in paragraph (5) of section 3318(b) of title 5, United States Code, as added by paragraph (1) of this subsection. Such plan shall—

(A) incorporate the input and feedback collected during the required consultation under such paragraph; and

(B) include estimated costs for building and operating the online tool.

(b) MAXIMIZING SHARING OF APPLICANT INFORMATION.—Section 2 of the Competitive Service Act of 2015 (Public Law 114–137; 130 Stat. 310) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) EXPLORING THE BENEFITS OF MAXIMIZING SHARING OF APPLICANT INFORMATION.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

“(A) the terms ‘agency’, ‘Director’, and ‘Office’ have the meanings given those terms in section 3304(c)(1) of title 5, United States Code; and

“(B) the term ‘competitive service’ has the meaning given the term in section 2102 of title 5, United States Code.

“(2) MAXIMIZING SHARING.—The Director shall maximize the sharing of information among agencies regarding qualified applicants for positions in the competitive service, including by—

“(A) providing for the delegation to other agencies of the authority of the Office to host multi-agency hiring actions to increase the return on investment on high-quality pooled announcements; and

“(B) sharing certificates of eligibles and accompanying résumés for appointment.”.

SEC. 5. MODERNIZING AND REFORMING THE ASSESSMENT AND HIRING OF FEDERAL JOB CANDIDATES.

(a) OPM REVIEW.—The Director shall conduct a review of all examinations for hiring for a position that the Office or any other examining agency has determined requires a minimum educational requirement because the nature of the duties of such position is of a scientific, technical, or professional position pursuant to section 3308 of title 5, United States Code, to determine whether there are data, evidence, or other information that justifies the need for educational requirements for such position. The Director shall consult with appropriate agencies, employee representatives, external experts, and other stakeholders when making any such determinations.

(b) ONLINE TOOL REGARDING POSITION DUTIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than two years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall create and maintain an online tool that lists each of the duties determined to require minimum educational requirements and the data, evidence, or other information that justifies the need for these educational requirements. This online tool shall include a mechanism to receive feedback regarding data, evidence, or information that could affect the determination that a duty requires a minimum educational requirement.

(2) HIRING PRACTICES.—Not later than one year after the creation of the online tool under paragraph (1), the Director and the head of any other examining agency shall

amend the hiring practices of the Office or the other examining agency, respectively, in accordance with the findings of the review made by subsection (a).

(c) ONLINE TOOL REGARDING RECRUITING.—Upon the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall establish and maintain an online tool that provides Federal agencies guidance on, and information about, all programs and authorities that help agencies attract, recruit, hire, and retain individuals.

SEC. 6. TALENT TEAMS.

(a) FEDERAL AGENCY TALENT TEAMS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—An agency may establish one or more talent teams (referred to in this section as “agency talent teams”), including at the component level.

(2) DUTIES.—An agency talent team shall provide hiring support to the agency and other agencies, including by—

(A) improving examinations (as defined in subsection (c)(1)(A) of section 3304 of title 5, United States Code, as added by section 3(a));

(B) facilitating writing job announcements for the competitive service;

(C) sharing high-quality certificates of eligibles; and

(D) facilitating hiring for the competitive service using examinations (as defined in such subsection (c)(1)(A)) and subject matter experts.

(b) OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT.—The Director may establish a Federal talent team to support agency talent teams in facilitating pooled hiring actions across the Federal Government, providing training, and creating technology platforms to facilitate hiring for the competitive service, including—

(1) the development of technical assessments; and

(2) the sharing of certificates of eligibles and accompanying résumés under sections 3318(b) and 3319(c) of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 7. UPDATES TO SYSTEM OF RECORDS FOR HIRING ACTIONS IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

(a) UPDATE TO SELECT SYSTEM OF RECORDS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and on a regular basis thereafter, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall provide guidance to all Federal departments and agencies to ensure appropriate use of a system of records, including any government-wide systems of records, to meet the requirements of section 552a of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the “Privacy Act”), in hiring actions in the civil service.

(b) GOVERNMENTWIDE SYSTEMS OF RECORDS AT THE OFFICE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Office of Personnel Management, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, shall ensure that any system of records notice updates required pursuant to the guidance provided under subsection (a) account for any use of newer technologies that capture records (as defined in section 552a(a)(4) of title 5, United States Code) in video, audio, and video/audio combination formats and accommodate maintenance of such video, audio, and video/audio combination records.

(2) EVALUATION FOR POTENTIAL UPDATES OR REVISIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall evaluate whether the governmentwide System of Records Notices (referred to in this paragraph as “SORNs”) “OPM/GOVT–5 Recruiting, Examining, and Placement Records” and “OPM/GOVT–6 Personnel Research and Test Validation Records”, or any successor materials thereto, require updating or revision to implement the purposes of this Act.

(B) ISSUANCE OF UPDATES OR REVISIONS; NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—If the Director, after the evaluation under subparagraph (A), finds that any updates or revisions to the SORNs identified in that subparagraph are necessary and appropriate to support implementation of this Act, the Director shall promptly—

- (i) issue the updates or revisions; and
- (ii) notify the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Accountability of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, Congress is charged with overseeing the executive branch. This includes overseeing the general management and operations of government agencies.

For the success of our government's missions and Federal programs, we must have a competent and skilled workforce to deliver services to the American people, defend our Nation, and execute the laws passed by Congress. However, agencies lack the tools to identify and hire the best candidates to fill these positions.

The problem is that hiring for the Federal civil service has over-relied on the paper credentials and self-administered job proficiency assessments of candidates. The reintroduced Chance to Compete Act of 2023 ensures agencies use objective, skills-based assessments to evaluate job candidates.

The private sector already uses such structured interviews, knowledge tests, and writing samples for the hiring process. It is time for the Federal Government to do so as well.

Agencies should be able to hire professionals that can do the work, and there are many ways to build the right kind of professional expertise. H.R. 159 represents one of those rare bipartisan legislative reforms that targets a specific problem, implements tested solutions, and reflects private-sector best practices.

The bill codifies and improves upon the policy initiatives begun in the Trump administration and which the Biden administration is continuing to implement.

I thank the chairwoman of the Committee on Education and Workforce, Dr. VIRGINIA FOXX, who is also a senior member of the House Oversight Committee, and Congressman GERRY CON-

NOLLY for working quickly to ready this bipartisan bill.

I also thank Representative RO KHANNA for, again, supporting this bill that will help us modernize our government.

I hope that our Senate colleagues can swiftly advance this important legislation so that it can be signed into law this year.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 159, the Chance to Compete Act.

The bipartisan Chance to Compete Act was introduced by Representative FOXX, who I see is here with us, and Representative CONNOLLY. I thank them both for their hard work on it.

The bill aims to make evaluations more useful in assessing the skills of candidates for Federal positions and to alleviate inefficiencies that have long hampered the hiring process.

The bill turns away from current reliance on self-assessment and attainment of educational degrees to determine candidate qualifications in the hiring process. Instead, subject matter experts and agencies would design assessments that test specific knowledge for a position for which the agency is hiring.

This overhaul would better match qualified applicants with positions and expand opportunities to candidates with more diverse professional and educational backgrounds.

The Chance to Compete Act aligns with the Office of Personnel Management's guidance of last May to facilitate an executive order to modernize the process of hiring Federal job candidates.

Establishing hiring methods that are more skills-based will improve agency managers' ability to hire people who possess the knowledge and experience to do the job and to hire from a wider array of qualified applicants.

The bill also directs OPM to create an online platform for sharing candidate assessments between agencies and maintain a portal for hiring managers to find candidates who have already demonstrated their qualifications for certain positions but were not yet hired.

Under this legislation, agencies may assemble talent teams to support this assessment of candidates in the hiring process. The OPM Director would be required to submit annual progress reports to Congress on use of the new assessments. After 5 years, the GAO would conduct a study of the implementation of the Federal job assessment reforms and their impacts on the hiring process.

This bill streamlines the hiring process for agencies and will shorten the time it takes to bring new, well-qualified employees on board.

I thank Dr. FOXX for her leadership in introducing it. The bill is the result

of constructive collaboration by several members of our committee from both sides of the aisle, including Mr. CONNOLLY.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this bipartisan measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX).

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans and Democrats can agree that every hard-working, taxpaying American deserves a Federal Government that is built upon a solid foundation that breathes efficiency and is peopled by those with appropriate skills, not necessarily degrees.

To achieve that end, we must eliminate the bureaucratic snares that have hamstrung the Federal hiring process over the course of decades, and fast.

In its current state, this dilapidated and archaic hiring process serves as a deterrent to attracting qualified and high-quality candidates. The simple truth is that it seriously undermines the Federal workforce's ability to serve the American people in both a proper and efficient manner.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that something must be done to turn the tide. That is precisely why I have introduced the Chance to Compete Act of 2023 alongside Representative GERRY CONNOLLY, Oversight and Accountability Committee Chairman JAMES COMER, and Representative RO KHANNA.

This legislation builds upon a solid record of bipartisan collaboration and proven success in codifying key skills-based hiring reforms.

More specifically, under this legislation, Federal agencies will be able better to distinguish practical performers in a field of candidates and focus on hiring individuals who can perform at the highest level in the jobs they assume within the Federal Government.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this much-needed bipartisan legislation.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for closing.

Mr. Speaker, I urge everyone to support passage of this bipartisan legislation. It is an auspicious way for us to begin on the Oversight Committee. I salute the chairman for his wisdom in bringing this forward, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, this is a commonsense bill aimed at hiring applicants for Federal positions based on whether they have the relevant skills to do the job. The American people deserve nothing less from their Federal Government.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 159, the Chance to Compete Act of 2023, as amended, that implements

merit-based reforms to the civil service hiring system and would replace degree-based hiring with skills- and competency-based hiring.

It is critically important that we make skills- and competency-based hiring, the fundamental method of assessment for hiring in the competitive civil service.

No person, with the requisite skill, training, and competency should be prevented from securing a job because of a requirement that they hold a higher education degree.

As modern industry and technology evolve, so too do the pathways to professional achievement.

Recently, apprenticeship programs are an increasingly viable alternative to a traditional degree as they give students new opportunities to gain both knowledge of the subject matter and a skill set tailored specifically to their chosen profession.

These programs allow them to pursue jobs which align with their passions and strengths while still providing the students with important recognition in the form of a certificate which demonstrates their expertise in the field.

Undeniably, these skills focused models have opened doors for many who have been marginalized economically—giving them access to well-deserved dignity and success within their communities.

It is past time that the competitive civil service do away with degree requirements and make skills- and competency-based hiring the fundamental method of assessment.

This change will expand the pipeline of candidates who can access the competitive civil service jobs.

I have long been a champion of education and workforce development.

Several institutions in my district, including Houston Independent School District, Lone Star College, and Houston Community College have very successful trade and skills and based training programs.

These programs cover the gamut from culinary arts to auto-mechanic programs, to certificate programs for estheticians.

In 2017, Hurricane Harvey, killed 67 people, flooded 154,000 homes and 500,000 vehicles, and inflicted \$125 billion in damage, primarily from catastrophic rainfall—triggering the worst flooding in the Houston metropolitan area history.

In the aftermath, I advocated for funding for Houston Community College for a water disaster resilience training, certification and onboarding of skills, technologies, and training for first responders and the public to better prepare for the unique challenges posed by massive urban flood events.

This and other programs offer the opportunity to gain practical and in-demand skills needed to build a successful career in today's economy.

The Chance to Compete Act of 2023 will open new pathways for those without a degree, and allow them to access job roles in the competitive civil service that may have otherwise been inaccessible which gives them the opportunity to advance their lives and careers.

Furthermore, access to jobs in the competitive civil service based on skill and competency will grant people an unprecedented level of access to the dignity of work that fulfills a great need in today's society.

We must remain committed to recognizing the power and potential of non-degree based

assessments for access to new employment paths, especially in light of today's changing job market.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, the civil service is the lifeblood of our government and provides taxpayers, small businesses, and vulnerable populations vital resources and services throughout the country.

As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Government Operations for the past 4 years, I held a series of hearings focused on revitalizing and rejuvenating the federal workforce.

What we found is that proposals like Chance to Compete should exist in a constellation of improvements to federal workforce recruitment that includes better pay, reforming federal internships to improve the intern to employee pipeline, and remaining competitive with the private sector in areas such as hybrid work—all of which are the subjects of legislation produced by the Government Operations Subcommittee last Congress (FAIR Act, Next Gen Feds Act, and Telework and Metrics Cost Savings Act).

I am proud to be the lead-cosponsor of the Chance to Compete Act, which leverages skill assessments to build a more competitive, equitable, and inclusive workforce.

This bill has bipartisan support and through demonstration projects at agencies proven empirical success.

In short, this legislation allows an agency that has an open position to develop a skills-based assessment to evaluate candidates in a way that goes above and beyond the traditional review of past work and education experience.

Furthermore, this bill:

Enables agencies to share their assessment findings with other agencies, streamlining the overall hiring process and ensuring competitive candidates do not fall between the cracks if they have already proven their ability to perform.

And deploys talent teams at agencies to ensure the development and implementation of the goals of this bill.

I thank Representative VIRGINIA FOXX, for her hard work and leadership on this bill as well as the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), Partnership for Public Service (PPS), the Senior Executives Association (SEA), Professional Managers Association (PMA), and others who have endorsed this legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 159, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT INFORMATION DATABASE ACT OF 2023

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 300) to amend chapter 3 of title 5, United States Code, to require the publication of settlement agreements, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 300

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Settlement Agreement Information Database Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. INFORMATION REGARDING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY FEDERAL AGENCIES.

(a) REQUIREMENTS FOR SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS.—Chapter 3 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“§307. Information regarding settlement agreements

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The term ‘local government’ has the meaning given that term in section 6501 of title 31.

“(2) ORDER TYPE.—The term ‘order type’ means the type of action or instrument used to settle a civil or criminal judicial action.

“(3) SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.—The term ‘settlement agreement’ means a settlement agreement (including a consent decree) that—

“(A) is entered into by an Executive agency; and

“(B) relates to an alleged violation of Federal civil or criminal law.

“(4) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, each territory or possession of the United States, and each federally recognized Indian Tribe.

(b) SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT INFORMATION DATABASE.—

“(1) EXECUTIVE AGENCY REQUIREMENT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the head of each Executive agency shall, in accordance with guidance issued pursuant to paragraph (2), submit the following information to the database established under paragraph (3):

“(i) A list of each settlement agreement, in a categorized and searchable format, entered into by the Executive agency, as a party to a lawsuit, which shall include, for each settlement agreement—

“(I) the order type of the settlement agreement;

“(II) the date on which the parties entered into the settlement agreement;

“(III) a list of specific violations that specify the basis for the action taken, with a description of the claims each party settled under the settlement agreement;

“(IV) the amount of attorneys’ fees and other litigation costs awarded, if any, including a description of the statutory basis for such an award;

“(V) the amount each party settling a claim under the settlement agreement is obligated to pay under the settlement agreement;

“(VI) the total amount the settling parties are obligated to pay under the settlement agreement;

“(VII) the amount, if any, the settling party is obligated to pay that is expressly specified under the settlement agreement as a civil or criminal penalty or fine;

“(VIII) any payment made under the settlement agreement, including a description of any payment made to the Federal Government;

“(IX) the projected duration of the settlement agreement, if available;

“(X) a list of State or local governments that may be directly affected by the terms of the settlement agreement;

“(XI) a brief description of any economic data and methodology used to justify the terms of the settlement agreement;

“(XII) any modification to the settlement agreement, when applicable;

“(XIII) notice and comments, when applicable; and

“(XIV) whether the settlement agreement is still under judicial enforcement and any period of time by which the parties agreed to have certain conditions met.

“(i) A copy of each—

“(I) settlement agreement entered into by the Executive agency; and

“(II) statement issued under paragraph (4).

“(B) NONDISCLOSURE.—The requirement to submit information or a copy of a settlement agreement under paragraph (A) shall not apply to the extent the information or copy (or portion thereof)—

“(i) is subject to a confidentiality provision that prohibits disclosure of the information or copy (or portion thereof); and

“(ii) would not be disclosed under section 552, if the Executive agency provides a citation to the applicable exemption.

“(C) CLARIFICATION OF RESPONSIBLE AGENCY.—In a case in which an Executive agency is acting at the request or on behalf of another Executive agency (referred to as the originating agency), the originating agency is responsible for submitting information under subparagraph (A).

“(2) GUIDANCE.—The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall issue guidance for Executive agencies to implement paragraph (1). Such guidance shall include the following:

“(A) Specific dates by which submissions must be made, not less than twice a year.

“(B) Data standards, including common data elements and a common, nonproprietary, searchable, machine-readable, platform independent format.

“(C) A requirement that the information and documents required under paragraph (1) are publicly available for a period starting on the date of the settlement through not less than 5 years after the termination of the settlement agreement.

“(3) ESTABLISHMENT OF DATABASE.—The Director of the Office of Management and Budget, or the head of an Executive agency designated by the Director, shall establish and maintain a public, searchable, downloadable database for Executive agencies to directly upload and submit the information and documents required under paragraph (1) for immediate publication online.

“(4) STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY.—If the head of an Executive agency determines that a confidentiality provision in a settlement agreement, or the sealing of a settlement agreement, is required to protect the public interest of the United States, the head of the Executive agency may except the settlement agreement from the requirement in paragraph (1) and shall issue a written public statement stating why such action is required to protect the public interest of the United States, which shall explain—

“(A) what interests confidentiality protects; and

“(B) why the interests protected by confidentiality outweigh the public's interest in knowing about the conduct of the Federal Government and the expenditure of Federal resources.”.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 3 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“307. Information regarding settlement agreements.”.

(c) DEADLINE TO ESTABLISH DATABASE.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the

Office of Management and Budget shall issue guidance required by section 307(b)(2) of title 5, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), and establish the settlement agreement information database required by section 307(b)(3) of title 5, United States Code, as added by subsection (a).

(d) DEADLINE FOR FIRST SUBMISSION.—Not later than 90 days after the Director issues guidance under section 307(b)(2) of title 5, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), the head of each Executive agency (as defined in section 105 of title 5, United States Code) shall begin submitting information to the database established under such section 307.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.

Section 552(a)(2) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) through (E) as subparagraphs (C) through (F), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following new subparagraph:

“(B) each settlement agreement (as defined in section 307) entered into by an Executive agency, with redactions for information that the agency may withhold under paragraph (8) and subsections (b) and (c) of this section;”.

SEC. 4. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act, or the amendments made by this Act, shall be construed to require the disclosure of information or records that any agency may properly withhold from public disclosure under section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the “Freedom of Information Act”).

SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICABILITY.

This Act shall be effective 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and shall apply—

(1) with respect to any settlement agreement (as such term is defined in section 307 of title 5, United States Code, as added by section 2), entered into on or after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(2) to the extent practicable, any such settlement agreement (as such term is defined in section 307 of title 5, United States Code, as added by section 2) that remains in effect on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 300, the Settlement Agreement Information Database Act.

Transparency and public participation are vital to ensure the public's continued trust in our government. Federal agencies frequently use settlement agreements to resolve litigation

without going through lengthy public trials. However, it is impossible for Congress and the public to determine the impact these settlement agreements have on State and local governments and private-sector entities because they must continue to follow the agency requirements these agreements mandate.

Such secret negotiations and agreements essentially prevent the public from participating in important policy decisions.

These Federal settlements agreements impose a tremendous burden. They are often difficult to see and hard to understand.

Further, State and local governments, industry stakeholders, and taxpayers can be directly affected by the settlements for years, yet they can't provide input. This legislation seeks to correct that problem.

The Settlement Agreement Information Database Act, or SAID Act, requires Federal agencies to submit information regarding consent decrees and settlement agreements to a public electronic database.

This public resource, to be overseen by the Office of Management and Budget, will include dates, payments, attorney's fees awards, and a list of State and local governments and other entities impacted by each settlement.

Currently, agencies release information about settlements at their discretion and will only publicize the facts that reflect favorably upon the agency. Furthermore, the terms of the settlement agreements are often deemed confidential.

Under the requirements of the SAID Act, if an agency believes that information regarding an agreement should remain confidential, the agency head must publish an explanation of why it is confidential. This will increase transparency and shine a much-needed light on agency settlement agreements.

I thank my Committee on Oversight and Accountability colleagues GARY PALMER and GERRY CONNOLLY for preparing this important legislation for consideration today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this commonsense legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I do indeed support this significant, commonsense, and bipartisan legislation. I thank the chairman again, and I thank Representatives PALMER and CONNOLLY for their hard work on it.

The Settlement Agreement Information Database Act will create a database of settlement agreements entered into by Federal agencies relating to alleged violations of Federal civil or criminal law. The OMB will manage the database and set deadlines for submission.

The heads of executive agencies will be required to submit details about the

types of settlement agreements they have entered into, the parties who are actually involved in them, the specific violations, and the dates upon which such settlement agreements were made. All information about the settlement agreements would remain public until 5 years after they terminate.

The information in the agreements would remain subject to the Freedom of Information Act, but if the head of the agency decided to keep an entire agreement confidential, he or she would be required to provide a specific explanation of that action.

□ 1745

This legislation will substantially improve the transparency surrounding so many settlement agreements, which in the past have been very difficult for the public to access or even to find. Transparency is, of course, central to the rule of law.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. PALMER).

Mr. PALMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 300, the Settlement Agreement Information Database Act.

The principle of open government is a hallmark of our system of governing, dating as far back as the Enlightenment.

The open government doctrine maintains that citizens have a right to access the Federal Government's records and operations to facilitate oversight of the public business.

Open government principles are key to fulfilling the promise of a nation ruled by the consent of the governed.

Open government requires transparency and public participation, which are vital to ensure the public's continued trust in our government.

Increasingly, however, Federal agencies have entered into legally binding settlement agreements to resolve litigation without going through lengthy public trials that often provide the transparency.

Unfortunately, agencies generally release limited information about these settlements. When information is published, it is usually in the form of a press release focused more on self-promoting than informing.

Furthermore, Federal agencies can unilaterally deem the terms of a settlement agreement confidential with no explanation.

Such secret negotiations and agreements prevent the public from participating in important policy decisions made on their behalf.

As a result, it is impossible for Congress and the public to determine the comprehensive impact of these settlement agreements on State and local governments, private sector entities, and taxpayers.

These parties are often barred from providing input but must continue to follow the mandated requirements which often remain in effect for decades.

Today, I am pleased to join my colleagues on both sides of the aisle as we take this first step to correct this problem.

The Settlement Agreement Information Database Act, or the SAID Act, will increase the transparency of the Federal Government and shine a much-needed light on settlement agreements.

The bill requires Federal agencies to submit information regarding settlement agreements to a public, electronic database.

This public resource, to be overseen by the Office of Management and Budget, would include dates, payments, attorney's fees awards, and a list of States, municipalities, and other entities impacted by these settlements.

Under the requirements of the SAID Act, if the agency believes that the information regarding an agreement should remain confidential, the agency head must publish an explanation of why it is confidential.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for supporting this bipartisan legislation. They include Chairman COMER, Ranking Member RASKIN, Representatives AMI BERA, SCOTT PETERS, ANDY BARR, and FRENCH HILL.

I especially thank my colleague across the aisle, Representative GERRY CONNOLLY, for his leadership in introducing this bill jointly with me.

In a time when Americans feel divided, it is important to come together to support commonsense, good government legislation.

I am happy we could, once again, expedite its consideration in the House, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this commonsense legislation.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE), my colleague.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, first of all, let me express my appreciation to the members of this committee, GERRY CONNOLLY, and then to look at my friend, Mr. RASKIN, I am delighted to be on the floor with him and delighted to be on the floor with the manager of this legislation as well.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 300, the Settlement Agreement Information Database Act of 2023, which would help increase the transparency of executive agencies to the public and allow the public to hold the government accountable.

This is the people's House. We were just discussing, even today, the enormity of the work that we have done in the powerful infrastructure bill, the CHIPS bill, and the Inflation Reduction Act. But if there are aspects of a bill that should be directed to the people, if there is information that lets them have a fullness of what has happened on behalf of the American people—what have we accomplished?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 300 would make public certain information included in settlement agreements entered into by executive agencies by establishing a public database for the reporting of agreements that cover alleged violation of civil or criminal law.

The information that will be disclosed to the public include: what type of settlement it is, any costs of money involved in the settlement agreement, what State and local governments are affected by the settlements, and the duration and modifications of such.

This ties into my point earlier of knowing information about what is going on in the government in terms of our legislation. This specifically provides the information to families and businesses and communities if there has been a settlement on a matter that they are interested in.

True transparency is for the government to be known by American citizens on everything we do, and one of the most hidden is the idea of settlements of cases. Maybe it has impacted a city, an individual, a family, a school, and it is important to know what these agreements are.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to have this legislation in the name of transparency, and I rise to support H.R. 300, and I ask my colleagues to support it enthusiastically as well.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 300, the 'Settlement Agreement Information Database Act of 2023,' which would help increase transparency of executive agencies to the public and allow the people to hold the government accountable.

H.R. 300 would make public certain information included in settlement agreements entered into by Executive agencies by establishing a public database for the reporting of agreements that cover alleged violation of Federal civil or criminal law.

The information that will be disclosed to the public include the following: what the type of settlement agreement it is, who is involved, any costs or money involved in the settlement agreement, what state and local governments are affected by the settlement agreements, the duration and modifications of the settlement agreement and any justifications for the settlement agreement.

This bill also allows for confidentiality in situations where the interests of the confidentiality provision would protect public interest.

An information database is important in the oversight of executive agencies, to ensure they are properly carrying out and enforcing laws we have passed.

As a senior member of the Homeland Security Committee, this information would be vital to the security of the country.

This information is important in knowing what secret deals are being made that relate to the violation of federal civil or criminal law, and to whom and where settlement payments are being sent.

H.R. 300 is a crucial step in protecting democracy.

By making settlement agreements public information, the public will feel more confident that there are no secret deals to cover bad behavior by corrupt government officials.

Additionally, this act serves as a deterrent for potential bad behavior in any government agency because the information database would ensure that bad behavior could not be hidden.

We work in an office of public trust, and the best way to ensure that the people trust us and listen to us, is to be as transparent as possible in any actions we take.

H.R. 300 helps the people to keep the government and check and hold us accountable.

By becoming transparent in how settlements are paid, taxpayers can be confident in how their money is being spent and what ways settlement agreements are impacting fiscal health.

It is important that we know the financial burden these settlements have on state and local governments.

The people deserve to be informed on where their money is being put and how that affects their communities and public services.

This way, when the people feel violated or that a community issue is not addressed, they can better advocate for themselves and participate in the democratic process.

As elected officials, our job is to make sure we are helping our constituents and advocating for their issues.

If we limit information, we are stopping our citizens from getting the help they need from us or understanding who they should hold accountable for a problem.

That would be a detriment to democracy.

H.R. 300 is necessary because it is an important step in creating government transparency which is crucial to the democratic process.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I would say, in closing, that I was moved by what Mr. PALMER had to say, that democracy is based on consent, and consent is based on access, but there is no access if you don't have transparency.

I think about something that James Madison said: "And a people who mean to be their own governors must arm themselves with the power that knowledge gives." So people need to have knowledge of everything that our government is doing. We don't want government entities entering into secret, sweetheart settlements with different litigants. It has got to be open to the whole public.

Mr. Speaker, I thank him and I thank the chairman for bringing this forward, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I am happy we could expedite the Settlement Agreement Information Database Act's consideration today.

This Chamber has passed the SAID Act with broad support three separate times, in the 115th, 116th, and 117th Congresses. It is time the Senate acted on this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this necessary, bipartisan legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Settlement Agreement Information Database Act, which I'm co-leading with my colleague from Alabama, Mr. PALMER.

This bipartisan legislation was considered under suspension and agreed to in the House of Representatives by a voice vote in previous Congresses.

I am glad to note that the first couple of bills from the Oversight and Accountability Committee coming to the Floor in the 118th Congress are bipartisan measures.

That continues the tradition from the 117th Congress, when the first bill on the Floor from the Oversight Committee was the FedRAMP Authorization Act (117th), a bipartisan bill I wrote, co-led, and passed with now-Chairman JAMES COMER.

Federal settlement agreements, negotiated behind closed doors, cannot continue to be shrouded in secrecy when they directly affect States, municipalities, and local stakeholders.

The SAID Act bring these binding agreements into the light by requiring federal agencies to publicly publish their documents or provide the public with written justification to keep the records confidential.

Details of the settlement agreements would remain public until 5 years after the termination of the agreements.

Increased transparency and better intergovernmental collaboration help form the foundation of good government, and this bill is one more tool to ensure government accountability.

I am a former local government official who served on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for 14 years, including 5 years as Chairman.

I currently chair the Congressional Caucus on Former Local Elected Officials, and I have authorized legislation, the Restore the Partnership Act, which would revive the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations.

I am committed to enhancing the intergovernmental partnership, which often entails requiring the federal government to be more transparent and proactive in its relationship with local governments.

When it comes to settlement agreements that have the potential of tying the hands of local governments on everything from stormwater management to public education the default should be transparency.

I welcome this bipartisan legislation, urge my colleagues to support it, and ask the Senate to act on this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 300, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 53 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WITTMAN) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules and pass:

H.R. 159; and

H.R. 300; and

Agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, if ordered.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

CHANCE TO COMPETE ACT OF 2023

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 159) to implement merit-based reforms to the civil service hiring system that replace degree-based hiring with skills- and competency-based hiring, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 422, nays 2, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 32]

YEAS—422

Adams	Bost	Cherfilus-
Aderholt	Bowman	McCormick
Aguilar	Boyle (PA)	Cicilline
Alford	Brecheen	Ciscomani
Allen	Brown	Clark (MA)
Allred	Brownley	Clarke (NY)
Amodei	Buck	Cleaver
Armstrong	Bucshon	Cline
Arrington	Budzinski	Cloud
Auchincloss	Burchett	Clyburn
Babin	Burgess	Clyde
Bacon	Burlison	Cohen
Baird	Bush	Cole
Balderson	Calvert	Collins
Banks	Cammack	Comer
Barr	Caraveo	Connolly
Barragán	Carbajal	Correa
Bean (FL)	Cárdenas	Costa
Beatty	Carey	Courtney
Bentz	Carl	Craig
Bera	Carson	Crane
Bergman	Carter (GA)	Crawford
Beyer	Carter (LA)	Crenshaw
Bice	Carter (TX)	Crockett
Biggs	Cartwright	Crow
Billakis	Casar	Cuellar
Bishop (GA)	Case	Curtis
Bishop (NC)	Casten	D'Esposito
Blumenauer	Castor (FL)	Daids (KS)
Blunt Rochester	Castro (TX)	Davidson
Boebert	Chavez-DeRemer	Davis (IL)

Davis (NC)	Jayapal	Nickel	Torres (CA)	Veasey	Westerman	Davidson	Jackson (NC)	Napolitano
De La Cruz	Jeffries	Norcross	Torres (NY)	Velázquez	Weston	Davidson	Jackson (TX)	Neal
Dean (PA)	Johnson (GA)	Norman	Trahan	Wagner	Wild	Davis (IL)	Jackson Lee	Neguse
DeGette	Johnson (LA)	Nunn (IA)	Trone	Walberg	Williams (GA)	Davis (NC)	Jacobs	Nehls
DeLauro	Johnson (OH)	Obernolte	Turner	Waltz	Williams (NY)	De La Cruz	James	Newhouse
DelBene	Johnson (SD)	Ocasio-Cortez	Underwood	Wasserman	Williams (TX)	Dean (PA)	Jayapal	Nickel
Deluzio	Jordan	Ogles	Valadao	Schultz	Wilson (FL)	DeGette	Jeffries	Norcross
DeSaulnier	Joyce (OH)	Omar	Van Drew	Waters	Wilson (SC)	DeLauro	Johnson (GA)	Norman
DesJarlais	Joyce (PA)	Owens	Van Duyne	Watson Coleman	Wittman	DelBene	Johnson (LA)	Nunn (IA)
Diaz-Balart	Kamlager-Dove	Pallone	Van Orden	Weber (TX)	Womack	Deluzio	Johnson (OH)	Obernolte
Dingell	Kaptur	Palmer	Vargas	Webster (FL)	Yakym	DeSaulnier	Johnson (SD)	Ocasio-Cortez
Doggett	Kean (NJ)	Panetta	Vasquez	Wenstrup	Zinke	DesJarlais	Jordan	Ogles
Donalds	Keating	Pappas				Diaz-Balart	Joyce (OH)	Omar
Duarte	Kelly (IL)	Pascarell				Dingell	Joyce (PA)	Owens
Duncan	Kelly (MS)	Payne				Doggett	Kamlager-Dove	Pallone
Dunn (FL)	Kelly (PA)	Pelosi				Donalds	Kaptur	Palmer
Edwards	Khanna	Peltola				Duarte	Kean (NJ)	Panetta
Ellzey	Kiggans (VA)	Pence	Balint	Eshoo	Schneider	Duncan	Keating	Pappas
Emmer	Kildee	Perez	Bonamici	García (IL)	Steube	Dunn (FL)	Kelly (IL)	Pascarell
Escobar	Kiley	Perry	Buchanan	Granger		Edwards	Kelly (MS)	Payne
Espallat	Kilmer	Peters	Chu	Mullin		Ellzey	Kelly (PA)	Pelosi
Estes	Kim (CA)	Pettersen				Emmer	Khanna	Peltola
Evans	Kim (NJ)	Pfuger				Escobar	Kiggans (VA)	Pence
Ezell	Krishnamoorthi	Phillips				Espallat	Kildee	Perez
Fallon	Kuster	Pingree				Estes	Kiley	Perry
Feenstra	Kustoff	Pocan				Evans	Kilmer	Peters
Ferguson	LaHood	Porter				Ezell	Kim (CA)	Pettersen
Finstad	LaLota	Posey				Fallon	Kim (NJ)	Pfuger
Fischbach	LaMalfa	Pressley				Feenstra	Krishnamoorthi	Phillips
Fitzgerald	Lamborn	Quigley				Ferguson	Kuster	Pingree
Fitzpatrick	Landsman	Ramirez				Finstad	Kustoff	Pocan
Fleischmann	Langworthy	Raskin				Fischbach	LaHood	Porter
Fletcher	Larsen (WA)	Reschenthaler				Fitzgerald	LaLota	Posey
Flood	Larson (CT)	Rodgers (WA)				Fitzpatrick	LaMalfa	Pressley
Foster	Latta	Rogers (AL)				Fleischmann	Lamborn	Quigley
Foushee	LaTurner	Rogers (KY)				Fletcher	Landsman	Ramirez
Fox	Lawler	Rose				Flood	Langworthy	Raskin
Frankel, Lois	Lee (CA)	Ross				Foster	Larsen (WA)	Reschenthaler
Franklin, C.	Lee (FL)	Rouzer				Foushee	Larson (CT)	Rodgers (WA)
Scott	Lee (NV)	Roy				Fox	Latta	Rogers (AL)
Frost	Lee (PA)	Ruiz				Frankel, Lois	LaTurner	Rogers (KY)
Fry	Leger Fernandez	Ruppersberger				Franklin, C.	Lawler	Rose
Fulcher	Lesko	Rutherford				Scott	Lee (CA)	Rosendale
Gaetz	Letlow	Ryan				Frost	Lee (FL)	Ross
Gallagher	Levin	Salazar				Fry	Lee (NV)	Rouzer
Gallego	Lieu	Salinas				Fulcher	Lee (PA)	Roy
Garamendi	Lofgren	Sánchez				Gaetz	Leger Fernandez	Ruiz
Garbarino	Loudermilk	Santos				Gallagher	Lesko	Ruppersberger
Garcia (TX)	Lucas	Sarbanes				Gallego	Letlow	Rutherford
Garcia, Mike	Luetkemeyer	Scalise				Garamendi	Levin	Ryan
Garcia, Robert	Luna	Scanlon				Garbarino	Lieu	Salazar
Gimenez	Luttrell	Schakowsky				Garcia (TX)	Lofgren	Salinas
Golden (ME)	Lynch	Schiff				Garcia, Mike	Loudermilk	Sánchez
Goldman (NY)	Mace	Scholten				Garcia, Robert	Lucas	Santos
Gomez	Magaziner	Schrier				Gimenez	Luetkemeyer	Sarbanes
Gonzales, Tony	Malliotakis	Schweikert				Golden (ME)	Luna	Scalise
Gonzalez, Vicente	Mann	Scott (VA)				Goldman (NY)	Luttrell	Scanlon
Good (VA)	Manning	Scott, Austin				Gomez	Lynch	Schakowsky
Gooden (TX)	Mast	Scott, David				Gonzales, Tony	Mace	Schiff
Gosar	Matsui	Self				Gonzalez, Vicente	Magaziner	Scholten
Gottheimer	McBath	Sessions				Good (VA)	Malliotakis	Schrier
Graves (LA)	McCarthy	Sewell				Gooden (TX)	Mann	Schweikert
Graves (MO)	McCaul	Sherman				Gosar	Manning	Scott (VA)
Green (TN)	McClain	Sherrill				Gottheimer	Massie	Scott, Austin
Green (TX)	McClintock	Simpson				Granger	Mast	Scott, David
Greene (GA)	McCollum	Slotkin				Graves (LA)	Matsui	Self
Griffith	McCormick	Smith (MO)				Graves (MO)	McBath	Sessions
Grijalva	McGarvey	Smith (NE)				Green (TN)	McCarthy	Sewell
Grothman	McGovern	Smith (NJ)				Green (TX)	McCaul	Sherman
Guest	McHenry	Smith (WA)				Greene (GA)	McClain	Sherrill
Guthrie	Meeks	Smucker				Griffith	McClintock	Simpson
Hageman	Menendez	Sorensen				Grijalva	McCollum	Slotkin
Harder (CA)	Meng	Soto				Grothman	McCormick	Smith (MO)
Harris	Meuser	Spanberger				Guest	McGarvey	Smith (NE)
Harshbarger	Mfume	Spartz				Guthrie	McGovern	Smith (NJ)
Hayes	Miller (IL)	Stansbury				Hageman	McHenry	Smith (WA)
Higgins (LA)	Miller (OH)	Stanton				Harder (CA)	Meeks	Smucker
Higgins (NY)	Miller (WV)	Staub				Harris	Menendez	Sorensen
Hill	Miller-Meeks	Steel				Harshbarger	Meng	Soto
Himes	Mills	Stefanik				Hayes	Meuser	Spanberger
Hinson	Molinaro	Steil				Hern	Mfume	Spartz
Horsford	Moolenaar	Stevens				Higgins (LA)	Miller (IL)	Stansbury
Houchin	Mooney	Stewart				Higgins (NY)	Miller (OH)	Stanton
Houlahan	Moore (AL)	Strickland				Hill	Miller (WV)	Staub
Hoyer	Moore (UT)	Strong				Himes	Miller-Meeks	Steel
Hoyle (OR)	Moore (WI)	Swalwell				Hinson	Mills	Stefanik
Hudson	Moran	Sykes				Horsford	Molinaro	Steil
Huffman	Morelle	Takano				Houchin	Moolenaar	Stevens
Huizenga	Moskowitz	Tenney				Houlahan	Mooney	Stewart
Hunt	Moulton	Thanedar				Hoyer	Moore (AL)	Strickland
Issa	Mrvan	Thompson (CA)				Hoyle (OR)	Moore (UT)	Strong
Ivey	Murphy	Thompson (MS)				Hudson	Moore (WI)	Swalwell
Jackson (IL)	Nadler	Thompson (PA)				Huffman	Moran	Sykes
Jackson (NC)	Nadler	Tiffany				Huizenga	Morelle	Takano
Jackson (TX)	Napolitano	Timmons				Hunt	Moskowitz	Tenney
Jackson Lee	Neal	Titus				Issa	Moulton	Thanedar
Jacobs	Neguse	Tlaib				Ivey	Mrvan	Thompson (CA)
James	Nehls	Tokuda				Jackson (IL)	Murphy	Thompson (MS)
	Newhouse	Tonko					Nadler	Thompson (PA)

NAYS—2

NOT VOTING—10

□ 1852

Ms. ADAMS changed her vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT INFORMATION DATABASE ACT OF 2023

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 300) to amend chapter 3 of title 5, United States Code, to require the publication of settlement agreements, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 425, nays 0, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 33]

YEAS—425

Adams	Boebert	Castro (TX)
Aderholt	Bost	Chavez-DeRemer
Aguilar	Bowman	Cherfilus-
Alford	Boyle (PA)	McCormick
Allen	Brecheen	Cicilline
Allred	Brown	Ciscomani
Amodei	Brownley	Clark (MA)
Armstrong	Buck	Clarke (NY)
Arrington	Bucshon	Cleaver
Austing	Budzinski	Cline
Babin	Burchett	Cloud
Bacon	Burgess	Clyburn
Baird	Burlison	Clyde
Balderson	Bush	Cohen
Banks	Calvert	Cole
Barr	Cammack	Collins
Barragán	Caraveo	Comer
Bean (FL)	Carbajal	Connolly
Beatty	Cárdenas	Correa
Bentz	Carey	Costa
Bera	Carl	Courtney
Bergman	Carson	Craig
Beyer	Carter (GA)	Crane
Bice	Carter (LA)	Crawford
Biggs	Carter (TX)	Crenshaw
Bilirakis	Cartwright	Crockett
Bishop (GA)	Casar	Crow
Bishop (NC)	Case	Cuellar
Blumenauer	Casten	Curtis
Blunt Rochester	Castor (FL)	D'Esposito

Tiffany	Van Duyne	Webster (FL)
Timmons	Van Orden	Wenstrup
Titus	Vargas	Westerman
Tlaib	Vasquez	Wexton
Tokuda	Veasey	Wild
Tonko	Velázquez	Williams (GA)
Torres (CA)	Wagner	Williams (NY)
Torres (NY)	Walberg	Williams (TX)
Trahan	Waltz	Wilson (FL)
Trone	Wasserman	Wilson (SC)
Turner	Schultz	Wittman
Underwood	Waters	Womack
Valadao	Watson Coleman	Yakym
Van Drew	Weber (TX)	Zinke

NOT VOTING—

Balint	Chu	Mullin
Bonamici	Eshoo	Schneider
Buchanan	Garcia (IL)	Steube

□ 1904

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I regret to inform you that I was unable to attend today's legislative session. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 32 and "yea" on rollcall No. 33.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ALFORD). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER
AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 25

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I hereby remove my name as cosponsor of H.R. 25.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's request is accepted.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER
AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 106.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. HINSON) as cosponsor of H.R. 106. She was inadvertently added through a clerical error and did not intend to cosponsor the legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF
CECIL ABARR

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of

Cecil Abarr, a beloved member of Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church, who recently passed away at the age of 93.

Cecil was born in Iowa in 1929, and upon his graduation from high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Army during World War II. After his service, he was awarded the World War II Victory Medal.

Cecil was also a leader in the private sector, locating to Savannah to become the president of the Branigar Corporation. In this position, he led the development of large real estate projects, which have now been flourishing for decades.

Despite all titles and awards he received throughout his life, he is best known as a husband to his wife, Lou, a father to his five children, a grandfather to 16, and great-grandfather to 21.

I pass on my sincerest condolences to his family and friends. He will be dearly missed.

SMOKING IN THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss smoking in the House of Representatives.

In yet another self-serving move, the Republicans have allowed smoking in House offices. It violates local and Federal law and threatens public health.

In the last few decades, secondhand smoke has killed more than 2.5 million Americans. It causes heart disease, lung cancer, and strokes, and it is extremely dangerous to children.

Local and Federal laws ban smoking in public and Federal buildings, and many studies have shown that there is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke.

It is a life-threatening decision that proves Republicans do not care about the health and safety of Americans. They write the laws but don't follow them.

□ 1915

SCHOOL CHOICE CHARTER SCHOOL

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, the benefits of school choice cannot be overstated. On average, students participating in school choice programs perform better academically and see higher college admission rates.

These factors make school choice a no-brainer, and charter schools serve as a foundational cornerstone of the educational freedom school choice delivers. Yet, even as many traditional government-run schools do not meet the needs of students, President Biden is erecting unreasonable barriers for

new charter schools and arbitrary funding restrictions. This is an abject attempt to expand teachers unions' monopoly over K-12 education.

A great education is a gateway to success, but Democrats are working hard to lock that gate and hide the key. Students deserve the opportunity to find a learning environment that suits them. That begins by ending Democrats' anticharter school crusade.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF LT.
COL. HAROLD BROWN

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the valorous life of Lieutenant Colonel Harold Brown of Catawba Island, Ohio, who recently took his final flight to the heavens.

Since sixth grade, Harold's dream was to be a pilot. By the age of 19, he made that dream a reality as a Tuskegee Airman.

Harold served as an exemplary officer in the U.S. Army Air Corps, completing dozens of combat missions during World War II. Once while on a mission, his plane was shot down, and Harold was taken as a prisoner of war.

This experience did not deter his service to our country. Harold served again during the brutal Korean War. Truly, he embodied the spirit of his Spit Fire legendary airmen.

Harold's devotion to his country extended beyond the battlefield. He worked to desegregate the military. He worked as a teacher to inspire new generations of students. His life was dedicated to service beyond self.

Today, America honors Harold for his service. We remember what an impact his life had, and our prayers are with his loved ones.

Truly, one human being can change the direction of the world for the better, and Harold Brown did that.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL
RELIGIOUS FREEDOM DAY

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Religious Freedom Day, which was celebrated last week on January 16.

Religious Freedom Day commemorates the Virginia General Assembly's adoption of Thomas Jefferson's landmark Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom on January 16, 1786. The statute became the basis for the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and led to freedom of religion for all Americans.

We are blessed to live in a country where a person is able to practice whatever religion they so choose without fear of persecution from government.

The First Amendment protects freedom of religion, along with the freedom of speech and the freedom of the press. This assurance of freedom gives us all the opportunity to openly practice and speak our beliefs and allows me to speak on the House floor right now.

The United States is a place where all faiths can be peacefully practiced, free from fear of persecution. The very foundation of our Nation, a place of freedom and liberty for all, was conceived by individuals in search of religious freedom.

Mr. Speaker, the United States of America will always be a beacon of light in the world, and we will always protect our fundamental, unified commitment of religious freedom.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MARGARET MARIE PETERS

(Mr. CORREA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to wish one of my constituents from my hometown of Anaheim, Ms. Margaret Marie Peters, a very happy 94th birthday.

Margaret was born in the year of the Great Crash. From an early age, she wanted to learn, and her grandmother taught her how to read and write. She graduated first in her high school class, and she was the first to graduate from high school in her family.

Later, Margaret married a decorated World War II marine. Together, they raised five daughters in Anaheim. In her forties, she attended college classes. It was something she always wanted to do. Later on, Margaret spent 29 years working for Disneyland.

Margaret will turn 94 on February 2, and she has witnessed many changes in this great country. Clearly, the United States today has come a long way since 1929.

Margaret, happy birthday to you and many more.

NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK

(Mr. ALLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, God created all children with unique skills and talents. We should encourage flexibility in learning to allow each student's gifts to flourish so they can live the American Dream.

On this National School Choice Week, we must empower America's families to have a voice, enabling them to choose a learning environment that is just right for their children, one that will both challenge that student and encourage them to develop their God-given talents.

Sadly, our schoolchildren are facing years' worth of learning and development loss, which is why education freedom today is so important.

According to polling done by the American Federation for Children, 72 percent of voters polled support school choice, highlighting broad bipartisan support on this issue. A ZIP code should never determine a child's future.

As a member of the House Education and the Workforce Committee, I am committed to advancing the cause of school choice this Congress. I call on my colleagues on both sides to join me and to do the same.

ON BEHALF OF FOOD INSECURE CHILDREN

(Ms. STEVENS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of every American child who is going to bed tonight hungry. I rise on behalf of the food insecure child and the meal insecure child. Pandemic-era lunch programs have expired, and that number is now 10 million. That is more than the entire populations of New York City, Washington, D.C., and Detroit combined.

I was meeting with the school administrators of Farmington Hills, and they were telling me 40 percent of our children are food insecure. This is impacting Oakland County, Michigan.

We have a bill to address this, as we did last term in the Congress, the Healthy Meals, Healthy Kids Act. Let's get this passed. Let's work together.

My colleagues are talking about school choice. Let's make sure that when students go to school, they have lunch guaranteed.

OPPOSING NEW YORK'S CONGESTION PRICING TAX

(Mr. LAWLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to oppose New York State's disastrous congestion pricing tax, which is nothing more than a tax grab hurting middle-class and working-class families in my district, especially those first responders who are forced to commute into New York City by car. It would cost them an additional \$5,000 a year to commute to work, \$23 a day, just to get into Midtown Manhattan.

Rockland County, where I live, faces a \$40 million value gap. We pay \$40 million more in taxes to the MTA system than services we receive. We have no one-seat ride option from Rockland County, and express rail service has been cut. In Westchester, Putnam, and Dutchess Counties, commuters have received a 10 percent cut in express rail service.

Many folks choose not to take the subway anymore because of the rise in crime. Violent felonies are up over 40 percent on the subways in New York City.

That is why I joined Congressman GOTTHEIMER from New Jersey in co-sponsoring the Anti-Congestion Tax Act. We will hold the MTA accountable and end this program, stopping it dead in its tracks.

CHAMPIONING THE AMERICAN ECONOMY

(Ms. SCHOLTEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHOLTEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to champion the American economy and to voice my support for American workers and businesses.

I have just returned from a busy district work period back in west Michigan, where I saw firsthand the need for a champion on economic revitalization.

The district I represent has long been known for manufacturing and industry. Many global companies started right in west Michigan out of garages and storefronts, driven by their local communities and supported by their representatives in government, but we all see firsthand the difficult economic times that are taking their toll on our communities and across the United States. Just last year, my district alone lost dozens of small businesses.

This is unacceptable, and it is why I am committed to moving the American economy forward in Congress. It is so important that we, both Republicans and Democrats, support American industry and our economy. It is not only the right thing to do; it is what our constituents expect us to do.

We have so much in common here, and I believe that both parties can come together and support American ingenuity and innovation. Let's get to work.

DEVASTATING EFFECTS OF ROE V. WADE

(Mr. LANGWORTHY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, the consequences of Roe have been nothing short of devastating. Reporting data indicates that nearly 64 million souls have perished since the fateful decision in 1973.

I want to take this 50th anniversary, a dark moment in our history, and turn it into an opportunity to remind my fellow Americans of the gift of life, a gift that I have been so blessed and fortunate to witness.

My greatest joy has been the birth of my two children, Madeline and Oliver. In October, we welcomed our son, Oliver Theodore, who was a month early after my wife, Erin, had a very debilitating and uncertain pregnancy.

As we spent time in the NICU, we were blessed that our little boy got stronger every single day. He is now very healthy. We also saw those parents in the NICU that were praying for their babies' survival after deliveries at 23 weeks.

We witnessed the true miracle of life and the power of life. We must be a Nation that cherishes life and gives support to women facing unintended pregnancies.

Every soul has value and purpose, and it is my pledge that my work in this distinguished body will be to fervently and faithfully protect the unborn.

CELEBRATING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF RON KLAİN

(Mr. KHANNA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the historic achievements of Ron Klain, one of the best chiefs of staff in modern American history.

Ron Klain helped craft the American Rescue Plan, finally prioritizing working families and the middle class.

Ron Klain helped implement the President's vaccine plan that made Americans return to normal life.

He was key, in a closely divided House and Senate, to passing the CHIPS and Science Act. He was key to the infrastructure bill, to help the House caucus come together, progressives and moderates, and Republicans.

Ron Klain succeeded because he had personal relationships with so many Members. I believe when history is written, he will be regarded as one of the best chiefs of staff.

□ 1930

NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I stand tonight to offer my support for the National School Choice Week.

Our public education system is in dire need of reform. School administrators seem to prioritize indoctrinating students with critical race theory and other leftwing ideology, not even actually teaching them reading, writing, or math.

As a result, our students' scores in these subjects are far below other nations in the past. Schools are clearly failing to prepare our children for success. Instead, they are hiding their agenda from parents who have a right to know.

Parents have the right to know and they only want the best for their children. They want to put them in better schools and they want to have the choice to do so. National School Choice Week gives parents the option and flexibility to place their children in an institution that best fits the child's needs and their values.

It is a simple, popular solution to fix our failing public education system. School choice will incentivize public

schools to compete for each student by offering a quality education that will improve their prospects for future success.

If the public education system doesn't work for students, it is time to reform it so that it does.

SHORTAGE OF HOUSING RENTAL UNITS

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, we have another issue I think that this body ought to take up and that the news media ought to be looking into—and that is another cost of the huge number of illegal immigrants entering this country.

It has been brought to my attention by property developers that we already have a shortage of over 4 million rental units or residential units in the country. When we let in another 2 million people a year, what do you think happens?

It further causes a shortage of rental units and sometimes single-family units in this country, which results in what?

The law of supply and demand is driving up rents because of all the people coming in the country. We know already—a huge, new expense for schools as we have to educate illegals. We know about President Biden's vow to pay for free healthcare for illegals, which he is fulfilling.

But for the individual looking for rental units, is their rent going up \$100, \$200, or \$300 as we continue to have this shortage.

It is time the press got on this issue. It is time that the Congress got on this issue, and let people know—particularly in the southern United States—if your rents are going up, it is because of all these people that are being allowed in the country.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROE V. WADE DECISION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. FISCHBACH) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 50th anniversary of Roe v. Wade.

Abortion is one of the greatest tragedies in our Nation, and Roe v. Wade opened the door for abortions on demand until birth.

Over the last five decades, more than 60 million unborn lives have been taken and a tragic, irreversible mark has been left on countless mothers, fathers, and families.

While there is still so much work to be done, I stand here hopeful. The pro-life community is stronger than ever. With last year's Dobbs v. Jackson decision, this country is beginning to move in the right direction to defend the defenseless and support life. We are changing hearts and minds.

Of course, we still have a long way to go in this fight, and I am proud that one of the first things that we voted on in this Congress was the born-alive act to protect babies who have survived an attempted abortion.

I am also proud to have introduced two bills to help protect the unborn, women, and taxpayers: the Defund Planned Parenthood Act, which I was asked to carry by former Congresswoman Vickie Hartzler who carried the bill in the last Congress, and the Protecting Life and Taxpayers Act.

We know that Americans across the country value the lives of the precious unborn babies, and it is just wrong to force them to spend their tax dollars on something that goes against their most closely held values.

This evening, I am pleased to be joined by so many champions of the unborn to celebrate the victories, with many more to come.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD), who is championing the efforts with Chairman BOST to end taxpayer-funded abortions at the VA. He has been a lead sponsor of the Women's Public Health and Safety Act, which gives States the authority to exclude abortion providers, like Planned Parenthood, from receiving Medicaid funds.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, Friday, thousands of Americans participated in the March for Life in support of the most vulnerable in our society who have no voice: the preborn.

Today, we continue to recognize the dignity of every individual and fight for the most fundamental right of all: the right to life. Our instincts were always right. Science has revealed it is not just a clump of cells in the womb. At 15 weeks, babies suck their thumbs, kick, jump, have fully developed hearts, and can feel pain.

What looks like a baby in the womb, revealed to us through ultrasound technology, is in fact a baby when they are born.

The radical Roe v. Wade decision was based on bad science and bad jurisprudence, and I am grateful that it was overturned.

Now is the time where we as a Nation must continue to build a culture that respects life and recognizes the God-given dignity of every individual and that first unalienable right: the right to life.

Despite the terror tactics we have seen come from pro-abortionists—burning and vandalizing pregnancy centers

and churches—the pro-life movement has not winced.

Pregnancy centers across the country continue operating, providing mothers with true healthcare, and they are saving lives.

Mr. Speaker, I join with these and millions across our Nation in serving as a voice for the voiceless. I, along with my fellow colleagues here, will continue to work to advance legislation that protects the preborn and the right to life.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN), who will be reintroducing the Ensuring Accurate and Complete Abortion Data Reporting Act which would compel States to report both the number of abortions and the number of infants born alive after an abortion attempt.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 1-year anniversary of the overturning of the Roe v. Wade decision.

A year ago, the Supreme Court has decided to allow the States to handle the issue of abortion themselves, ending more than 49 years of heart-breaking Federal precedent.

When we celebrate pro-life victories like this, we should not do so in a way that causes emotional pain to those women who have had an abortion; nor should we back down from being unapologetically pro-life. I believe that abortion as a matter of convenience or everyday birth control is flatout wrong.

I would like to recognize the contributions of pro-life pregnancy centers throughout our Nation that offer compassionate support and care to women as they choose to become mothers and bring life into this world.

The Palmetto Women's Center in my district is focused on uniting hope, health, and healing to women as they bring children into the world. The center is working to lower the number of abortions in South Carolina and supporting women as they choose life for their children. I applaud the work that pro-life centers are doing, and I will continue to be an advocate for all that they do.

Although giving the power on how to handle the issues of abortion back to the States through the favorable Dobbs ruling is a big win, it does not mean the work of the pro-life movement is done. Action at the State and local level will only grow in importance in the coming years. I will continue to be a voice for the voiceless.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I know that we will all continue to be a voice for the voiceless. It is so important, and our work is not done.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MOORE), another defender of life.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, as our country grapples with how to respond to this pressing moment facing women, families, and children, I believe we must strive for a better, more compassionate future.

All Americans want women and their babies to be safe, loved, and empowered, no matter their situation or socioeconomic status.

I believe Americans are capable of seizing this moment and coming together to support those facing tremendous challenges and uncertainty.

We can support critical, comprehensive services for women in need. We can make it easier for working-class families to earn money and raise children, and we can support the rights and dignity of our youngest Americans.

This month, I was elected to serve on the Ways and Means Committee, and I intend to use this position to do better by American families.

We owe our most vulnerable children more effective policies that give them a better runway to achieve their dreams in a broken world.

I am engaging on Title IV-B and IV-E programs to ensure child welfare and foster care programs are as evidence based as MIECHV.

I am engaging on the Connecting Forever Families Act to expedite foster care placements and help child welfare courts adopt new procedures to address the unacceptable delays and backlogs for children waiting for placements in supportive homes.

I will fight for children in foster care who have to spend nights in shelters, government offices, or other inappropriate settings because of our congregate care crisis.

I am shedding light on the unfair audit rates of families who have claimed their adoption tax credit, 70 percent of whom were audited in the most recent available data.

Children are obviously our future and we must work harder to ensure every child has the opportunity and resources to thrive and succeed.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for all of his work.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CLYDE), who reintroduced the Protect the UNBORN Act last week to prohibit the implementation of and funding for President Biden's pro-abortion executive orders.

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, this past Sunday, on January 22, our Nation mourned the 50th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the treacherous ruling that paved the way for the murder of more than 60 million innocent babies, all precious, all worth saving, and all made in the perfect image of God.

Thankfully, the victorious Dobbs ruling overturned Roe v. Wade last year, rightfully returning the issue of abortion back to the States. However, while we champion this momentous win in the fight for the unborn, we cannot forget the millions of lives lost to the evils of abortion.

Today, I introduced a resolution to recognize January 22 as the "Day of Tears" to honor and mourn the loss of these unborn children.

But in the face of President Biden's pro-abortion agenda, we must do more

to defend the sanctity of human life. May God raise up more warriors to protect innocent life because life, after all, is our first and foremost fundamental unalienable right.

Last week, I proudly introduced—with nearly 90 original cosponsors—the Protect the UNBORN Act to block and defund President Biden's pro-abortion executive orders. Congress must take action to protect the unborn and prevent taxpayer dollars from funding the left's radical and destructive abortion agenda.

We must never downplay the evils of abortion. As an unapologetic pro-life advocate, I am proud to defend the unborn and fight for the sanctity of life.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN), who is looking forward to reintroducing the Second Chance at Life Act, which would require abortion facilities to provide information at least 24 hours in advance that explains that the chemical abortion process may be reversed before taking the second of the two drugs required.

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember the lives lost due to the Roe v. Wade decision. There are an estimated 64 million American souls who are missing as a result. We gather today on this 50th anniversary, solemnly, but hopefully.

As Members of Congress, we are tasked with representing our constituents, even the unborn ones. I will always speak out and fight to protect the sanctity of these lives.

It is difficult to imagine how we as a Nation allowed this decision to stand for almost 50 years. I have hope and know that the Supreme Court has provided for us a brighter future with their decision in Dobbs.

Last Congress, as was just stated, I introduced the Second Chance at Life Act. Chemical abortions can be reversed with no harm to the child if the pregnant mother develops second thoughts midway through the chemical abortion process. My legislation, again, in this Congress, will give the opportunity of life for thousands of unborn children.

So, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Representative SMITH and Representative FISCHBACH for their leadership in the Congressional Pro-Life Caucus and for holding this Special Order.

□ 1945

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his pro-life leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN), who is a great defender of life.

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I really appreciate CHRIS SMITH, and I thank the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. FISCHBACH) for having this Special Order.

Mr. Speaker, today, as we mourn the millions of babies lost because of the decision in Roe v. Wade 53 years ago, we also celebrate the millions that will

be saved now because that decision has been overturned.

Tragically, Mr. Speaker, my Democratic colleagues would rather spread lies about the Supreme Court decision than to tell the truth. They want to deceive you into believing that Republicans don't care about women's health—that is crazy—even as they enable and encourage biological men to use women's bathrooms and to compete in women's sports, and they are content to simply watch pro-abortion thugs attack and burn pregnancy centers and churches around the country.

They may refuse the truth because it doesn't further their anti-life agenda, but they can't change it. The truth is that the reversal of *Roe v. Wade* returned the power to where it belongs, and that is to States.

So today I celebrate that decision, I pray for those taken, and I renew my promise to never surrender the fight for our unborn. I will always defend the voiceless, and I will always stand for life.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his commitment.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. OGLES), who is a freshman and a great pro-lifer.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman FISCHBACH for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago, the Supreme Court handed down a decision that will live in infamy. Because of that opinion, over 63 million unborn children have lost their lives due to abortion.

In time, future generations will look back at this moment in American history and wonder how the greatest country in the world could have permitted modern-day slaughter of the innocent. Our Nation has dehumanized those who are seen as a burden. Comfort and convenience are now the new cardinal virtues of our modern society.

It is this mentality and this historic decay of the value of life that has allowed our Nation to treat the unborn as a disposable commodity.

Over the last five decades, we have treated the unborn as problems to be solved rather than children to be loved. Due to the incredible work of millions of patriotic Americans, abortion has been consigned to the ash heap of history. On this day, we thank those Americans who for over 50 years willingly and joyfully stood outside in the January cold for the March for Life.

On June 24, 2022, the United States of America declared to the world that, once again, our Nation will embrace the intrinsic worth and value of every human life.

This is a reminder, however, that our work is not yet done. We will continue to work and convince hearts and minds that the culture of life is worth preserving.

May all those who work to promote the cause of life forever know that their cause is true, their cause is beautiful, and their cause is good.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his commitment to the unborn and for those wonderful words.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. RUTHERFORD), who is a proud father, grandfather, and great-grandfather committed to fighting for life.

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give a voice to the voiceless all across our country and to speak out against the culture of death that has been perpetuated by the abortion industry here in America.

Our Founding Fathers enshrined in the Declaration of Independence the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. I thought it very telling that our Vice President was speaking on this very issue just the other day, and she only mentioned two of those unalienable rights—only two of them. She left out life. I think she left out life because that is where we are at now. We talk about a culture of death, and we don't talk about life.

Our Nation cannot sit idly by as 1 million unborn children have this life taken from them every year—every year. This is advancing the normalizing of this culture of death.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to stand before you now and celebrate the fact that this culture of death is turning. The Supreme Court *Dobbs* decision doesn't end abortion in America, but by placing abortion decisions at the State level where it belongs, voters now have a greater voice in shaping our abortion laws. But that doesn't stop our resolve at the Federal level.

Throughout my time in Congress, I have fought to pass laws that respect life at every stage from conception to natural death and support both mothers and babies before and after birth.

Earlier this month, I proudly joined with my colleagues in the House to pass H.R. 26, the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, which simply ensures that babies who survive failed abortions receive the same life-saving care that all babies who live can receive. It is amazing to think that we have to pass a law like this.

Last week, I joined Congressman ALEX MOONEY to again introduce the Life and Conception Act which recognizes the humanity and life of the unborn and ensures they receive equal protection under the 14th Amendment.

Mr. Speaker, whether we take a child's life in the womb or we take it at First and Main, that is simply geography. Life is our most precious gift from God, and it is our obligation to protect the most basic of rights for our next generation.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida for his remarks. He mentioned the culture of death, but we are working and we are succeeding in turning back into the culture of life and changing hearts and minds.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER), who is my great friend. My colleague from Minnesota is a true champion of life.

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative FISCHBACH for allowing me to speak and for her leadership on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision. Over the past five decades, we have seen the devastation of this ruling which has led to the loss of tens of millions of innocent lives here in the United States.

I am heartened by the Supreme Court's reversal of this decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson* last year and the countless lives that will now be saved each year.

For me and my family, the sanctity of life is deeply personal. Nearly 20 years ago, my wife, Jodi, and I became parents of a baby born with Down syndrome. Whenever I look at my son, Isaac, I see a miracle of God's special gift to our family.

Today, Isaac is an incredible, kind, and charming young man, and we know his future is bright.

Now imagine what kind of world we would be living in if every child was given the same chance to reach their potential. The world would be much better, and our collective future would be much brighter.

Since the start of the current Congress, the House has voted on two bills to protect and support life. I am proud that all of my Republican colleagues joined me in supporting these very important measures.

Unfortunately, very few of my Democrat colleagues joined us in support.

To those Democrats who joined us in defending life: I commend you for your courage to stand up to the radical wing of your party which pushes for abortion on demand without limits and paid for with taxpayer dollars.

The right to life should not be a partisan issue. I extend an olive branch to all of my Democratic colleagues from across the aisle and encourage them to join us in our fight for life and to protect the most innocent among us—the unborn. It is up to us to do what is right and always defend life.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Minnesota for sharing his personal story and that strong and true support for life.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLY), who introduced the Heartbeat Protection Act which would prohibit abortions when a fetal heartbeat is detected with the exceptions of rape, incest, and life of the mother, when necessary.

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative FISCHBACH for hosting this Special Order tonight.

Mr. Speaker, it has been 7 months since the Supreme Court's landmark decision to overthrow *Roe v. Wade*. In that time, we have seen incredible progress to protect life around this

country, including right here in Washington, D.C.

Just last week, many tens of thousands of families came out to the annual March for Life to peacefully and prayerfully show their support for the unborn. The week before that, the new pro-life Republican majority took major steps to protect the unborn. We passed legislation to ensure babies who survive an abortion receive the healthcare they need and to condemn the attacks against pro-life crisis pregnancy centers.

All of this is so important, but it is only the first step. Advocates and people of faith around the country are going to their State and Federal lawmakers and asking for change.

It is my hope that this Republican majority will continue to pass pro-life legislation.

But my real question is: Where is the outrage?

Nearly 1 million unborn children are expected to die in 2023 from abortion in the United States of America where protecting life is our highest calling, where we are the first responder anywhere in the world anytime there is an attack on life, anytime there is a tragedy, and anytime there is a need for somebody to come there to try and save lives, and yet, in 2023, 1 million of the unborn will be aborted.

It is incredible to me that in a nation that has been blessed for so long with so much can turn a blind eye and a deaf ear to the cries of the unborn.

My question is: Where is the outrage of my fellow Americans?

Where is the cry against this injustice that is taking place?

Where are we standing not as a political party but as citizens of the world?

As I said earlier, if there is a cry for help anywhere on this globe, it is America that will be the first responder. It is America that will be there to save lives. It is America that will go to any end of the world to help, and yet in our own country, we are willing to turn a blind eye and a deaf ear to the abortion of over 1 million babies a year.

Where is the outrage?

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania. We are here to speak up for the unborn. We hear their cry, and we will continue to fight and hear the unborn.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST), who with the House Congressional Pro-Life Caucus chair, CHRIS SMITH, helped lead the amicus brief in support of Mississippi's Dobbs case. The amicus brief was joined by more than 200 Members of Congress, including myself, and urged the Supreme Court to overturn Roe v. Wade. The Congressman from Mississippi was instrumental in that fight.

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, on July 4, 1776, our Founding Fathers in the preamble to the Declaration of Independence wrote these words that form the very foundation of our great Nation: We hold these truths to be self-evident,

that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to say that we cannot and to say that we will not forget the duty of this Congress to defend the inalienable right to life.

We cannot forget the devastating impact that Roe v. Wade caused on families and the unborn.

That devastation would have continued if Dobbs v. Jackson—a case that proudly originated in my home State of Mississippi—had not come before the Supreme Court and opened the pathway to allow States to protect life.

If our great Nation can unite around any singular issue, it should be that life is sacred, that life is a gift from God, and that life should be protected.

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Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. GUEST for all of his work in defense of the unborn.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT), the Values Action Team chair and a long-standing protector of life.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I come to you tonight, as a lot of my colleagues are doing, recognizing the 50-year anniversary of the very flawed decision of Roe v. Wade.

Although the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade last year, we cannot forget the lives that were lost during those almost 50 devastating years. The lives lost during the Roe era must serve as a reminder of why we continue to fight for life.

I have said before, and I will continue to say, that I am pro-life, I am pro-family, and I am pro-child.

In the wake of the Dobbs decision, many States, like my home State of Alabama, have taken steps to protect the unborn. However, there is more work to be done when it comes to protecting the lives of the innocent.

Just last week, the annual March for Life took place here in Washington, D.C., as has already been mentioned. Instead of marching on the Supreme Court, thousands of pro-life advocates marched on Congress. They know our work isn't finished, and they are calling on Congress to do our job to protect life.

I am proud to see that pro-life measures have already passed the House with bipartisan support in this new Congress. Also, I look forward to continued bipartisan efforts to protect the most vulnerable among us, and this should be, Mr. Speaker, a bipartisan issue.

This anniversary serves as a solemn reminder of the tragic losses as a result of Roe v. Wade, but it also serves as a reminder that the fight for life is not over.

I also thank Mrs. FISCHBACH for her leadership in organizing this hour to uphold the sanctity of human life.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate all the work Mr. ADERHOLT has done. We will continue our fight, and we will continue our work to protect unborn life.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN).

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, as has been mentioned, prior to 1973, there would be what I would consider a consensus in this country that it would be horrific to prematurely kill a child in the womb.

At the time, as a practical matter, there were only two or three States in which abortion was legal, and there were times in this country before then in which every State considered abortion illegal.

We know what happened after Roe v. Wade. Over the next 50 years, over 73 million lives were cut short, people who would have had long lives and accomplished who knows how much. You can imagine how America would have changed if those people had actually lived.

Recently, Roe v. Wade was overturned, and there was a lot of elation because of that. However, since that time, I think six States have had referendums.

While it was widely believed that abortion should be illegal in 1973, despite the fact that we had ultrasounds at that time, despite the fact that again and again in workplaces we pass around pictures with the ultrasounds showing children at 3, 4, or 5 months old, American opinion was a disappointment. Even in conservative States like Michigan, Kansas, Montana, and Kentucky, the public voted pro-abortion.

What can we make of this? Because we have had the ultrasound in between Roe v. Wade and now, we have to say that, unfortunately, the people who should have been educating the public have failed to do their duty. The churches in the last 50 years allowed this shift of opinion to happen.

By the way, it should have been easy to explain why abortion was horrific because of the huge increase in ultrasounds. Instead, we are joining a handful of countries—Vietnam, North Korea, Red China—out there saying abortion should be legal in some States through birth. Is this how we repay our maker for this wonderful country that we have?

I call upon America to call upon the churches to educate the public on what is right and wrong, that every one of these children is a gift from God, and that it is time for America to wake up.

I do believe right now we have, as with so many other issues, a problem with the clergy in the country, but I hope Americans can ask their clergymen where they are when these decisions are being made all around the country and where they are when these referendums are coming before the people. We need more help from the mute clergy.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. GROTHMAN for his words and his commitment to the unborn.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON), a champion of life, the chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, and my friend.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Minnesota for her leadership with this incredibly important Special Order.

Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight during this Special Order to reaffirm my commitment to protect and defend the sanctity of life.

From the moment I stepped foot into this Chamber in 2009, I cemented my promise to protect our most vulnerable, the unborn.

Our Founders enshrined in the Declaration of Independence three inalienable rights. The first is the right to life.

Tonight, we celebrate the right to life. Last year, the Supreme Court made it clear, determining the right to an abortion is the responsibility of the State, through the people and their elected officials.

Mr. Speaker, life matters. Friday marked the first March for Life since the end of Roe v. Wade. Tens of thou-

sands convened in Washington to celebrate the change from a national culture of death to one of life.

The evidence that life matters goes well beyond the Supreme Court, however, and the Supreme Court ruling that was finally delivered in 2022, shifting the defense of the innocent unborn to 50 State capitols.

Here is the evidence of why we should also celebrate, in addition to that ruling. In the United States, there are 2,500 pregnancy resource centers that support unborn babies and their parents. There are only 800 abortion clinics in this Nation. That is an amazing shift in numbers. Of the practicing OB/GYN doctors, 90 percent do not perform abortions.

God bless the pregnancy resource center staff that educate, encourage, and empower men and women to make informed life choices based on Christian principles and values, their trained client advocates and medical personnel, including registered nurses, certified phlebotomy technicians, and registered diagnostic medical sonographers.

Mr. Speaker, my position on life has always been clear. You can't be a

champion for the future of this great country if you are going to limit its potential. It is my strong belief that every child, every human life, is sacred and has a purpose in this world.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for his steadfast commitment to the unborn and strong support of the right to life.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all of my colleagues who spoke this evening for standing up to give a voice to the voiceless unborn children, for standing up for life. Our Conference will continue to be strong for mothers and their unborn children.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, January 25, 2023, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the fourth quarter of 2022, pursuant to Public Law 95-384 are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2022

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Brian Modeste	11/20	11/23	Palau		842.00		14,059.77		2,154.75		17,056.52
Kenneth Degenfelder	11/20	11/23	Palau		842.00		12,921.99		2,154.75		15,918.74
Committee total					1,684		26,981.76		4,309.50		32,975.26

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. RAÚL M. GRUALVA, Jan. 2, 2023.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON RULES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2022

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Sisson, Donald	10/2	10/4	Portugal		430.00		1,280.19		425.50		2,135.69
Ismail, Lori	10/2	10/4	Portugal		430.00		1,288.69		425.50		2,144.19
Price, Matthew	10/2	10/4	Portugal		430.00		1,267.19		425.50		2,122.69
Waskiewicz, Stephen	10/2	10/4	Portugal		430.00		1,277.19		425.50		2,132.69
Sisson, Donald	10/4	10/7	Spain		1,017.00		1,513.27		133.33		2,663.60
Ismail, Lori	10/4	10/7	Spain		1,017.00		1,521.77		133.33		2,672.10
Price, Matthew	10/4	10/7	Spain		1,017.00		1,500.27		133.33		2,650.60
Waskiewicz, Stephen	10/4	10/7	Spain		1,017.00		1,510.27		133.33		2,660.60
Sisson, Donald	10/23	10/26	Belgium		1,359.72		966.29				2,326.01
Chambers, Kelly	10/23	10/26	Belgium		1,359.72		966.29				2,326.01
Sisson, Donald	10/26	10/28	France		1,079.76		966.29				2,046.05
Chambers, Kelly	10/26	10/28	France		1,079.76		966.29				2,046.05
Hon. McGovern, James	12/09	12/12	Cuba		1,179.00		728.59				1,907.58
Committee total					11,845.96		15,752.58		2,235.32		29,833.86

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN, Jan. 12, 2023.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, SELECT COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DISPARITY AND FAIRNESS IN GROWTH, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2022

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☐

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. JAMES A. HIMES, Jan. 10, 2023.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-91. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 22-063, pursuant to Sec. 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-92. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 22-067, pursuant to Sec. 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-93. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 22-061, pursuant to Secs. 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-94. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 22-057, pursuant to Sec. 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-95. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 22-055, pursuant to Sec. 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-96. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 22-058, pursuant to Sec. 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-97. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 22-060, pursuant to Secs. 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-98. A letter from the General Counsel, Office of Enforcement, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustments [Docket No.: RM23-3-000; Order No.: 886] received January 19, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-99. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Secretariat Division, Office of the General Counsel, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Civil Monetary Penalties Inflation Adjustment [FPMR Case 2023-01; Docket

No.: GSA-FPMR-2023-0005; Sequence No.: 1] (RIN: 3090-AK68) received January 19, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-100. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modification of Class D Airspace and Class E Airspace; Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport, MT; Correction [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0764; Airspace Docket No.: 21-ANM-37] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-101. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D Airspace and Class E Airspace, East Hampton and Montauk, NY [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1545; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AEA-36] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-102. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment and Establishment of Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes; Eastern United States [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0906; Airspace Docket No.: 21-ASO-27] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-103. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Route T-266; Juneau, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2021-1106; Airspace Docket No.: 19-AAL-70] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-104. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment and Revocation of Multiple Air Traffic Service (ATS) Routes; Establishment of Area Navigation (RNAV) Route; and Revocation of the Pawnee City, NE, Low Altitude Reporting Point in the Vicinity of Pawnee City, NE [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0712; Airspace Docket No.: 22-ACE-1] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-105. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Christmas Valley Airport, OR

[Docket No.: FAA-2022-0571; Airspace Docket No.: 22-ANM-46] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-106. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Montpelier, VT [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0376; Airspace Docket No.: 22-ANE-4] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-107. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment and Establishment of Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes; Eastern United States [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0932; Airspace Docket No.: 21-AEA-22] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-108. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment and Amendment of Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes; Eastern United States [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0858; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AEA-5] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-109. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment and Establishment of Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes; Northeast United States [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0826; Airspace Docket No.: 21-AEA-21] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-110. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment and Establishment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes; Northeast United States [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0482; Airspace Docket No.: 21-AEA-18] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-111. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Colored Federal Airway Amber 4 (A-4); Anaktuvuk Pass, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0078; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AAL-2] (RIN: 2120-AA66)

received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-112. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Proposed Revocation of Colored Federal Airway Blue 79 (B-79); Annette Island, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0109; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AAL-10] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-113. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Colored Federal Airways Blue 7 (B-7) and Green 9 (G-9); Bethel, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0186; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AAL-6] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-114. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class C Airspace; Manchester, NH [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1472; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AWA-8] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-115. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Domestic VOR Federal Airway V-356; Mile High, CO [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0027; Airspace Docket No.: 21-ANM-70] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-116. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Colored Federal Airway Green 7 (G-7); Nome, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0301; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AAL-21] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-117. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Colored Federal Airway Amber 6 (A-6); St. Mary's, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0299; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AAL-18] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-118. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Colored Federal Airway Green 15 (G-15); St. Mary's, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0162; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AAL-12] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-119. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Colored Federal Airway Red-1 (R-1) Vicinity of King Salmon, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0765; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AAL-22] (RIN: 2120-

AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-120. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of VOR Federal Airway V-573 and Area Navigation (RNAV) Route T-398 in the Vicinity of Sulphur Springs, TX [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0617; Airspace Docket No.: 22-ASW-4] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-121. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D Airspace and Establishment of Class E Airspace; Butts Army Airfield (AAF) (Fort Carson) Airport, CO [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0797; Airspace Docket No.: 20-ANM-44] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-122. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Montpelier, VT [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0376; Airspace Docket No.: 22-ANE-4] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-123. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Colored Federal Airway Green 17 (G-17); Atkasuk, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0539; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AAL-13] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-124. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Colored Federal Airways Amber 5 (A-5) and Blue 4 (B-4); Bettles, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0172; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AAL-3] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-125. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Colored Federal Airway Green 18 (G-18); Point Lay, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0165; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AAL-14] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-126. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Colored Federal Airway Blue 8 (B-8); Shishmaref, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0300; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AAL-19] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-127. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Colored Federal Airway Amber 2 (A-2); Northway, AK

[Docket No.: FAA-2022-0335; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AAL-17] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-128. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Oneonta, NY [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1073; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AEA-13] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-129. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Colored Federal Airway Blue 37 (B-37); Level Island, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0312; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AAL-20] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-130. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Colored Federal Airway Red 51 (R-51); Level Island, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0120; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AAL-15] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-131. A letter from the Chairman, Office of Proceedings, Surface Transportation Board, transmitting the Board's final rule — Final Offer Rate Review; Expanding Access to Rate Relief [Docket No.: EP 755; Docket No.: EP 665 (Sub-No. 2) received January 19, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-132. A letter from the Director, Regulations and Disclosure Law Division, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Refund of Alcohol Excise Tax [Docket No.: USCBP-2018-0033] (RIN: 1515-AE39) received January 19, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. CALVERT:

H.R. 446. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to increase the maximum penalty for mail theft; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN (for herself and Ms. SALAZAR):

H.R. 447. A bill to rescue domestic medical manufacturing activity by providing incentives in economically distressed areas of the United States and its possessions; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. STEIL (for himself, Mr. BARR, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. FLOOD,

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. ROSE, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. FITZGERALD, Ms. STEFANIK, and Mr. HILL):

H.R. 448. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require the registration of proxy advisory firms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BURCHETT (for himself, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, and Mr. FITZGERALD):

H.R. 449. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to increase transparency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. BURLISON (for himself, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. BIGGS, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. OGLES, and Mr. GOSAR):

H.R. 450. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the National Firearms Act; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BICE (for herself, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. LETLOW, and Ms. HOULAHAN):

H.R. 451. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to criminalize abuse with respect to assisted reproductive technology, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. BARR, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. BUCHSON, and Mr. SCHWEIKERT):

H.R. 452. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to allow parents of eligible military dependent children to establish Military Education Savings Accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Appropriations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BISHOP of NORTH CAROLINA (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. HUNT, Mr. BIGGS, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. DUNCAN, and Mrs. LUNA):

H.R. 453. A bill to provide remedies to members of the Armed Forces discharged or subject to adverse action under the COVID-19 vaccine mandate; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BURCHETT (for himself and Mr. CUELLAR):

H.R. 454. A bill to protect children against sexual abuse and exploitation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BURCHETT (for himself and Mr. COHEN):

H.R. 455. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to fix a technical error in the definitions; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CARTER of GEORGIA:

H.R. 456. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to limitations on exclusive approval or licensure of orphan drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Mr. KEATING, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Ms. SALAZAR):

H.R. 457. A bill to identify and combat corruption in countries, to establish a tiered list of countries with respect to levels of corruption by their governments and their efforts to combat such corruption, and to

evaluate whether foreign persons engaged in significant should be specially designated nationals under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 458. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require the TSA to offer certain secondary screenings of passengers prior to a physical inspection if an object of concern is detected, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Ms. ESHOO (for herself and Ms. JACOBS):

H.R. 459. A bill to ensure the privacy of pregnancy termination or loss information under the HIPAA privacy regulations and the HITECH Act; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. CARSON, Ms. CROCKETT, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. EVANS, and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois):

H.R. 460. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide additional amounts of loan forgiveness to teachers of English learners and teachers of bilingual and dual language immersion students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. ESTES (for himself, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. BANKS, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. STAUBER):

H.R. 461. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit discrimination by abortion against an unborn child on the basis of Down syndrome; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN:

H.R. 462. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat Puerto Rico as part of the United States for purposes of determining whether real property qualifies for treatment as a like-kind exchange; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GOOD of VIRGINIA (for himself, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, and Mr. BURGESS):

H.R. 463. A bill to have education funds follow the student; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GOSAR (for himself, Mr. MASSIE, and Ms. HAGEMAN):

H.R. 464. A bill to restore the separation of powers between the Congress and the President; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GOSAR:

H.R. 465. A bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to improve the protection of United States investors against certain prejudicial actions taken by the government of a foreign country; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. GOSAR:

H.R. 466. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require voting systems used in elections for Federal office to

produce a voter-verified paper ballot of each vote cast on the system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GRIFFITH (for himself, Mr. LATTA, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. BUCHSON, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BALDERSON, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. PALMER, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. BANKS, Mr. FITZGERALD, and Mr. MOONEY):

H.R. 467. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GUTHRIE (for himself, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. STEFANIK, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. COHEN, Mr. PENCE, Ms. ROSS, Mr. ROSE, Mr. MEUSER, Ms. BROWN, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. GUEST, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. BAIRD, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. SOTO, Mrs. SPARTZ, and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska):

H.R. 468. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to extend beyond the COVID-19 emergency period, with certain modifications, the Emergency Declaration Blanket Waiver relating to training and certification of nurse aides to alleviate burdens imposed on staff of skilled nursing facilities and nursing facilities; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HERN:

H.R. 469. A bill to require asylum officers at United States embassies and consulates to conduct credible fear screenings before aliens seeking asylum may be permitted to enter the United States to apply for asylum, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CASE, Ms. CHU, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. KEATING, Mr. KILMER, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEU, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PORTER, Ms. ROSS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. TOKUDA, and Mr. VARGAS):

H.R. 470. A bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to permanently prohibit the conduct of offshore drilling on the outer Continental Shelf off the coast of California, Oregon, and Washington; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. JOHNSON of SOUTH DAKOTA (for himself and Mr. COSTA):

H.R. 471. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, with respect to commercial

motor vehicle parking, safety, and licensing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JOYCE of OHIO (for himself, Ms. ROSS, Ms. BROWN, and Mr. TURNER):

H.R. 472. A bill to require the Attorney General to propose a program for making treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder and acute stress disorder available to public safety officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MACE (for herself, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. FRY, and Mr. DUNCAN):

H.R. 473. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds to close or realign the Marine Corps Recruit Depot located at Parris Island, South Carolina, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MEUSER:

H.R. 474. A bill to ensure that employees of the Internal Revenue Service are brought back to their offices until the backlog of tax returns has been eliminated; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MFUME (for himself, Mr. BACON, Ms. NORTON, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. EVANS, Mr. CARSON, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. TITUS, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. TRONE, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Mr. KEATING, Mr. COHEN, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER):

H.R. 475. A bill to require the Attorney General to make competitive grants to State, Tribal, and local governments to establish and maintain witness protection and assistance programs; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. MILLER of WEST VIRGINIA (for herself and Ms. CHU):

H.R. 476. A bill to allow community supports to meet specific needs of families and children through an electronic care portal under the MaryLee Allen Promoting Safe and Stable Families program; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MILLER of WEST VIRGINIA:

H.R. 477. A bill to amend title V of the Social Security Act to establish a grant program for community-based maternal mentoring programs; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. MILLER of WEST VIRGINIA:

H.R. 478. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow for the inclusion of additional expenses in dependent care FSAs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MILLER of WEST VIRGINIA:

H.R. 479. A bill to amend title IV of the Social Security Act to target additional child care funds by allocating to States based on the number of children in poverty, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. STANTON, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SCHRIER, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. GALLEGU, and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H.R. 480. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide flexibility with the

cost share for fire management assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Ms. MATSUI):

H.R. 481. A bill to authorize transitional sheltering assistance for individuals who live in areas with unhealthy air quality caused by wildfires, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. HORSFORD, and Ms. MATSUI):

H.R. 482. A bill to improve Federal activities relating to wildfires, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, Armed Services, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 483. A bill to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to provide for the automatic appointment of judges to the District of Columbia courts without the advice and consent of the Senate, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PFLUGER (for himself, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. ESTES, Mr. PERRY, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. CAREY, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. FALLON, Mr. MORAN, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Ms. VAN DUYN, Mr. ROY, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. STAUBER, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. BABIN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Mr. BALDERSON, and Mrs. BICE):

H.R. 484. A bill to repeal the natural gas tax; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. RODGERS of WASHINGTON (for herself, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. WENSTRUP, and Mr. BURGESS):

H.R. 485. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to prohibit the use of quality-adjusted life years and similar measures in coverage and payment determinations under Federal health care programs; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ROY (for himself, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. PALMER, Mr. POSEY, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. CLYDE, and Mrs. GREENE of Georgia):

H.R. 486. A bill to prohibit the government of the District of Columbia from using Federal funds to allow individuals who are not citizens of the United States to vote in any election, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. SELF (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. WEBER of Texas):

H.R. 487. A bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to prohibit a State from registering an individual to vote in elections for Federal office held in the State unless the individual provides documentary proof that the individual is a cit-

izen of the United States; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mrs. STEEL (for herself, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. BURCHETT, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, and Mr. CRENSHAW):

H.R. 488. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the amendments made to reporting of third party network transactions by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. VAN DREW:

H.R. 489. A bill to provide that the notice titled "Designating Aliens for Expedited Removal" shall be given the full force and effect of law, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WEBSTER of FLORIDA:

H.R. 490. A bill to establish the Federal Infrastructure Bank to facilitate investment in, and the long-term financing of, economically viable United States infrastructure projects that provide a public benefit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. WILLIAMS of GEORGIA (for herself, Ms. TENNEY, Ms. JACOBS, and Mr. GARBARINO):

H.R. 491. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to adjust the rate of per diem payments provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to grantees that provide services to homeless veterans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WITTMAN (for himself and Mr. CASE):

H.R. 492. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a patient outreach system relating to mental health care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CLYDE (for himself, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. BANKS, Mr. BRECHEEN, Mr. BURLISON, Mr. MASSIE, Mr. EZELL, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Mr. ADERHOLT, and Mr. GUEST):

H. Res. 52. A resolution memorializing the unborn by lowering the United States flag to half-staff on the 22d day of January each year; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself and Mrs. DINGELL):

H. Res. 53. A resolution raising awareness and encouraging the prevention of stalking by expressing support for the designation of January 2023 as "National Stalking Awareness Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MENG (for herself, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. BERA, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. BROWN, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. CASE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CROW, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. EVANS, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HIMES, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. LIEU, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PETERS, Mr. POCAN, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. ROSS, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. SALAZAR, Ms. SCHKOWSKY, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms.

VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN
SCHULTZ, and Mrs. WATSON COLE-
MAN):

H. Res. 54. A resolution affirming the role of the United States in improving access to quality, inclusive public education and improving learning outcomes for children and adolescents, particularly for girls, around the world; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. BACON, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. TONKO, Ms. OMAR, and Ms. TOKUDA):

H. Res. 55. A resolution recognizing the roles and the contributions of Americas Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) and their critical role in providing quality health care for the public and the Nation's Armed Forces for more than 150 years, through multiple public health emergencies, and beyond; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

ML-1. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Senate of the State of Ohio, relative to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 259, strongly urging the President of the United States and United States Congress to take specified actions to encourage the production of domestic crude oil, natural gas, and coal resources; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Natural Resources, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Ways and Means.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. FERGUSON introduced A bill (H.R. 493) for the relief of Michael Janssen and Steven Passantino; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)1(l) of rule XII and Section 31(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. CALVERT:

H.R. 446.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress).

By Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN:

H.R. 447.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have the Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States; [. . .]—And To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for car-

rying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. STEIL:

H.R. 448.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution: "To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes."

The single subject of this legislation is:

Corporate governance

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H.R. 449.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Amends the Small Business Act to increase transparency and to improve access to microloans for rural small businesses.

By Mr. BURLISON:

H.R. 450.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation repeals the National Firearms Act of 1934.

By Mrs. BICE:

H.R. 451.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill solely modifies Title 18 USC. It does so by creating a new federal criminal law associated with fertility fraud.

By Mr. BANKS:

H.R. 452.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress).

The single subject of this legislation is:

Education

By Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina:

H.R. 453.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Military covid-19 vaccine requirements

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H.R. 454.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Amends federal law to protect children against sexual abuse and exploitation.

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H.R. 455.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Controlled Substances Act to fix a technical error in the definitions.

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia:

H.R. 456.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 457.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 458.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: "To pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States"

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 "To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes"

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: "To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."

By Ms. ESHOO:

H.R. 459.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To ensure the privacy of pregnancy termination or loss information under the HIPAA privacy regulations and the HITECH Act.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT:

H.R. 460.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would expand loan forgiveness eligibility to teachers of English Learners.

By Mr. ESTES:

H.R. 461.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article I to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying into execution the powers vested by the Constitution

Section 5 of the 14th Amendment

By Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN:

H.R. 462.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the U.S. Constitution, which provide as follows:

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States; [. . .]—And

To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

Moreover, the Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article IV, Section 3, which provides, in relevant part, as follows:

The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia:

H.R. 463.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

School choice.

By Mr. GOSAR:

H.R. 464.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I

The single subject of this legislation is:
Restoring separation of powers between
the Congress and the President

By Mr. GOSAR:

H.R. 465.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article I

The single subject of this legislation is:
Protecting US investments

By Mr. GOSAR:

H.R. 466.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article I

The single subject of this legislation is:
Electoral reform

By Mr. GRIFFITH:

H.R. 467.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power
granted to Congress under Article I, Section
8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GUTHRIE:

H.R. 468.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States
Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:
Health care

By Mr. HERN:

H.R. 469.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 4

The single subject of this legislation is:
Immigration

By Mr. HUFFMAN:

H.R. 470.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section III, Clause II

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 471.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. JOYCE of Ohio:

H.R. 472.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Attorney General to pro-
pose a program for making treatment for
post-traumatic stress disorder and acute
stress disorder available to public safety offi-
cers.

By Ms. MACE:

H.R. 473.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States
Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prevent Federal funds from being used
to close or realign Marine Corps Recruit
Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina, or to
conduct any planning or other activity re-
lated to such closure or realignment.

By Mr. MEUSER:

H.R. 474.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8.

The single subject of this legislation is:
Taxation

By Mr. MFUME:

H.R. 475.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States
Constitution, which gives Congress the
power to make all Laws which shall be nec-
essary and proper for carrying into Execu-
tion the foregoing Powers and all other Pow-

ers vested by this Constitution in the Gov-
ernment of the United States, or in any De-
partment or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Public Safety

By Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia:

H.R. 476.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United
States Constitution, to "provide for the com-
mon Defense and general Welfare of the
United States."

By Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia:

H.R. 477.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United
States Constitution to "provide for the com-
mon Defense and general Welfare of the
United States."

By Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia:

H.R. 478.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 Clause 1 of the United
States Constitution, to "provide for the com-
mon Defense and general Welfare of the
United States."

By Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia:

H.R. 479.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause I

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 480.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:
Wildfire

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 481.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:
Wildfire Smoke Assistance

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 482.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:
Wildfire

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 483.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

clause 17 of section 8 of article I of the
Constitution.

By Mr. PFLUGER:

H.R. 484.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:
Repeal of the Natural Gas Tax.

By Mrs. RODGERS of Washington:

H.R. 485.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

The subject of this bill is amending title XI
of the Social Security Act to prohibit the
use of quality-adjusted life years and similar
measures in coverage and payment deter-
minations under federal health care pro-
grams.

By Mr. ROY:

H.R. 486.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United
States Constitution—to make all Laws
which shall be necessary and proper for car-
rying into Execution the foregoing Powers,

and all other Powers vested by this Constitu-
tion in the Government of the United States,
or any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. SELF:

H.R. 487.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 4, Clause 1: The Times,
Places, and Manner of holding Elections for
Senators and Representatives, shall be pre-
scribed by each state by the legislature
thereof; but the Congress may at any time
by Law make or such Regulations, except as
to the Places of Choosing Senators [Page
H469]

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the National Voter Registration
Act of 1993 to prohibit a State from reg-
istering an individual to vote in elections for
Federal office held in the State unless the
individual provides documentary proof that
the individual is a citizen of the United
States.

By Mrs. STEEL:

H.R. 488.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:
Taxation

By Mr. VAN DREW:

H.R. 489.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill codifies an executive order re-
garding the Expedited Removal immigration
policy.

By Mr. WEBSTER of Florida:

H.R. 490.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States
Constitution

By Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia:

H.R. 491.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power
granted to Congress under Article I, Section
8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitu-
tion.

By Mr. WITTMAN:

H.R. 492.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. FERGUSON:

H.R. 493.

Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Con-
stitution, to "provide for the common de-
fense and general welfare of the United
States."

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors
were added to public bills and resolu-
tions, as follows:

H.R. 7: Mr. DIAZ-BALART and Mr. FLOOD.

H.R. 21: Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. STAUBER,
Mr. WOMACK, Mrs. HINSON, Mrs. BOEBERT,
and Mr. VAN ORDEN.

H.R. 24: Mr. BACON and Mr. JORDAN.

H.R. 25: Mr. WALBERG.

H.R. 32: Mr. VEASEY and Mr. MORAN.

H.R. 33: Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania and Ms.
SEWELL.

H.R. 34: Ms. SEWELL.

H.R. 35: Ms. SEWELL and Mrs. CHERFILUS-
McCORMICK.

H.R. 38: Mr. D'ESPOSITO.

H.R. 41: Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr.
HUDSON, and Ms. LETLOW.

H.R. 51: Ms. BROWN and Ms. BLUNT ROCH-ESTER.

H.R. 73: Mrs. LESKO.

H.R. 82: Mr. KEATING, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. BARR, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. LARSEN of Wash- ington, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. RUIZ, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. CARL, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California, and Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.

H.R. 105: Mr. DUNCAN.

H.R. 106: Mrs. LESKO.

H.R. 114: Mr. LAMBORN.

H.R. 116: Mr. GAETZ, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. DUNCAN.

H.R. 119: Mr. LAMBORN.

H.R. 130: Mr. KUSTOFF.

H.R. 139: Mr. GOODEN of Texas and Mr. STAUBER.

H.R. 159: Mr. MFUME and Ms. MACE.

H.R. 163: Mrs. HINSON and Ms. SALAZAR.

H.R. 173: Mrs. HINSON.

H.R. 185: Mr. DUNCAN, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. GOSAR, Mrs. LUNA, and Mr. KILEY.

H.R. 189: Mr. OBERNOLTE.

H.R. 190: Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. FEENSTRA, and Mr. MOOLENAAR.

H.R. 192: Mr. CRAWFORD, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. CLYDE, Ms. TENNEY, and Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 205: Mr. MFUME.

H.R. 209: Mr. WITTMAN and Mr. LAMBORN.

H.R. 211: Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. TRONE, Ms. LETLOW, Mr. BOST, Mr. FEENSTRA, and Mrs. LESKO.

H.R. 223: Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. BANKS, and Mrs. LESKO.

H.R. 233: Mr. PENCE, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. CAREY, Mr. CLYDE, and Mr. BARR.

H.R. 239: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 243: Mr. KHANNA and Mr. GARCÍA of Il- linois.

H.R. 248: Mr. NEWHOUSE and Mr. MANN.

H.R. 255: Mr. NEAL.

H.R. 256: Mrs. RADEWAGEN.

H.R. 259: Mr. CLEAVER.

H.R. 261: Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H.R. 291: Mr. GARBARINO.

H.R. 292: Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Ms. CHU, and Mr. LAMALFA.

H.R. 298: Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia.

H.R. 309: Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. CON- NOLLY, and Mr. CASE.

H.R. 314: Mr. CALVERT, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, and Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H.R. 317: Mr. MANN.

H.R. 329: Mr. DESJARLAIS.

H.R. 331: Mrs. LESKO and Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H.R. 335: Mr. TIMMONS.

H.R. 337: Mr. KUSTOFF.

H.R. 343: Mr. MILLS.

H.R. 346: Mr. DONALDS, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. ISSA, Mr. WOMACK, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. GUEST, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. FINSTAD, and Mr. VAN ORDEN.

H.R. 350: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California.

H.R. 354: Mr. OBERNOLTE.

H.R. 361: Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 369: Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ and Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California.

H.R. 371: Mr. MORAN, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. FULCHER, Ms. FOXX, and Mrs. LESKO.

H.R. 372: Mr. MORAN, Mr. GUTHRIE, and Mrs. LESKO.

H.R. 383: Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. FLOOD, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. MOOLENAAR, and Mrs. BOEBERT.

H.R. 385: Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CLINE, and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.

H.R. 386: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.

H.R. 393: Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 394: Ms. TITUS and Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 398: Mr. BABIN, Mr. GUEST, Mr. STAUBER, and Mrs. LESKO.

H.R. 399: Mr. MFUME.

H.R. 400: Mr. JAMES.

H.R. 407: Mr. LANGWORTHY.

H.R. 408: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CARSON, Mrs. WAT- SON COLEMAN, and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 414: Mrs. PELTOLA.

H.R. 416: Mr. MOOLENAAR.

H.R. 421: Mrs. LESKO and Mr. MANN.

H.R. 424: Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina and Mr. FITZGERALD.

H.R. 429: Mr. LAMBORN and Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H.R. 431: Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. ELLZEY, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. GOSAR, and Mr. OWENS.

H.R. 435: Mr. GUEST, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, and Mrs. LESKO.

H.R. 436: Mrs. BOEBERT and Mr. GUEST.

H.R. 437: Mr. GUEST and Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 441: Ms. TENNEY, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. FEENSTRA, and Mr. SESSIONS.

H.J. Res. 5: Mr. POSEY.

H.J. Res. 7: Mr. KILEY.

H.J. Res. 8: Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. EZELL, and Mr. STAUBER.

H.J. Res. 12: Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. CALVERT, and Mr. LATTA.

H.J. Res. 13: Ms. PELOSI and Mr. RUIZ.

H.J. Res. 14: Mr. KIM of New Jersey and Mr. DESAULNIER.

H. Con. Res. 7: Mr. POCAN, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Ms. MACE, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. MAST, Mr. ELLZEY, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. MANNING, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. KILMER, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. STE- VENS, Mr. KILEY, Mr. SOTO, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. SHERRILL, Mrs. BOEBERT, and Mrs. CAMMACK.

H. Res. 8: Mrs. CAMMACK.

H. Res. 29: Mr. BUCHANAN.

H. Res. 33: Mr. HIGGINS of New York.

H. Res. 35: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY and Mr. RASKIN.

H. Res. 37: Mrs. BEATTY.

H. Res. 48: Mr. FULCHER, Mr. MANN, and Mr. CRAWFORD.

H. Res. 51: Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. KILEY, and Mrs. CAMMACK.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and reso- lutions, as follows:

H.R. 25: Mr. MOORE of Utah.

H.R. 106: Mrs. HINSON.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, pro- posed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MRS. GREENE OF GEORGIA

AMENDMENT No. 2: Page 2, beginning on line 9, strike "Except in the case of a severe energy supply interruption described in sub- section (d), the" and insert "The".

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MS. CASTOR OF FLORIDA

AMENDMENT No. 3: Page 3, line 9, strike the closing quotation mark and the final period. Page 3, after line 9, add the following:

"(4) OFFSHORE EXCLUSIONS.—The plan re- quired by paragraph (1) shall not include oil and gas leasing in any tract located in the South Atlantic Planning Area, the Straits of Florida Planning Area, or the in any area of the Eastern Gulf of Mexico that is referred

to in section 104(a) of the Gulf of Mexico En- ergy Security Act of 2006."

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MR. CASTRO OF TEXAS

AMENDMENT No. 4: Page 3, line 1, strike "LIMITATION" and insert "LIMITATIONS".

Page 3, line 2, strike "shall not" and insert "shall not—".

Page 3, line 2, strike "provide for" and in- sert the following:

"(A) provide for".

Page 3, line 5, strike "percent." and insert "percent; and".

Page 3, after line 5, insert the following:

"(B) provide for oil and gas leasing of any Federal lands that have a high concentration of orphaned oil and gas wells."

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MR. FALLON

AMENDMENT No. 5: Add to the end the fol- lowing:

SEC. 3. ANNUAL THREAT ASSESSMENT.

Section 161 of the Energy Policy and Con- servation Act (42 U.S.C. 6241) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"(1) ANNUAL THREAT ASSESSMENT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this sub- section, and every year thereafter, the Sec- retary shall submit to Congress a report con- taining an assessment of any physical or cy- bersecurity threats to a storage facility or a related facility of the Reserve.

"(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The assessment re- quired under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

"(A) The dates of each physical or cyberse- curity threat that occurred.

"(B) The resolution of such physical or cy- bersecurity threat.

"(C) The local, State, and Federal agencies that assisted in mitigating such physical or cybersecurity threat.

"(D) Any other information the Secretary determines necessary."

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MR. WITTMAN

AMENDMENT No. 6: Add at the end the fol- lowing:

SEC. 3. SPR CRUDE OIL EXPORT BAN.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, including section 161 of the Energy Pol- icy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6241), with respect to the draw down and sale at auction of any crude oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve after the date of enact- ment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Secretary of Com- merce and the Director of National Intel- ligence, shall require, as a condition of any such sale, that—

(1) the crude oil not be exported to—

(A) the People's Republic of China;

(B) the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; or

(C) the Islamic Republic of Iran; and

(2) the recipient is not under the owner- ship, control, or influence of the Chinese Communist Party.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MS. DELBENE

AMENDMENT No. 7: Page 3, line 9, strike the closing quotation mark and the final period.

Page 3, after line 9, add the following:

"(4) OFFSHORE EXCLUSIONS.—The plan re- quired by paragraph (1) shall not include oil and gas leasing in any tract located in the Washington/Oregon planning area."

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MR. CLEAVER

AMENDMENT No. 8: Page 3, line 9, strike "and the Secretary of Defense" and insert "the Secretary of Defense, the Adminis- trator of the Environmental Protection

Agency, and the Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MR. CLEAVER

AMENDMENT No. 9: Page 2, line 11, insert “or during the period of a national emergency declared under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.)” after “(d)”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MS. TLAIB

AMENDMENT No. 10: Page 3, line 9, strike the closing quotation mark and the final period.

Page 3, after line 9, insert the following:

“(4) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEWS.—Before issuing any oil and gas lease or permit pursuant to the plan, the Secretary of the Interior shall complete a separate environmental review for each such lease and permit in accordance with section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)).”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MS. TLAIB

AMENDMENT No. 11: Page 3, line 9, insert “the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Council on Environmental Quality,” before “and the”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MS. TLAIB

AMENDMENT No. 12: Page 2, line 13, strike “date of enactment of this subsection” and insert “date this paragraph takes effect described in paragraph (4)”.

Page 3, line 9, strike the closing quotation mark and the final period.

Page 3, after line 9, insert the following:

“(4) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Paragraph (1) shall take effect on the date on which the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency submits to Congress a report containing the results of a study of the effects on environmental justice and greenhouse gas emissions that are likely to result from implementation of the plan required to be developed under such paragraph.”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MS. TLAIB

AMENDMENT No. 13: Add at the end the following:

SEC. 3. REPORT ON CAMPAIGN DONATIONS FROM THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY.

Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chair of the Federal Election Commission shall submit to Congress a report on campaign donations made during the 2 most recent election cycles to Members of Congress from oil and gas industry lobbyists and corporations.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MS. TLAIB

AMENDMENT No. 14: Page 3, line 5, strike “10 percent” and insert “0.1 percent”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MR. HUFFMAN

AMENDMENT No. 15: Page 3, line 9, strike the closing quotation mark and the final period.

Page 3, after line 9, add the following:

“(4) OFFSHORE EXCLUSIONS.—The plan required by paragraph (1) shall not include oil and gas leasing in any tract located in the Northern California planning area.”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MR. GOLDMAN OF NEW YORK

AMENDMENT No. 16: Page 2, beginning on line 4, amend section 2 to read as follows:

SEC. 2. CERTIFICATION.

Section 161 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6241) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(k) CERTIFICATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except in the case of a severe energy supply interruption or by obligations of the United States under the international energy program, as described in subsection (d), the Secretary may not execute the first drawdown of petroleum products in the Reserve after the date of enactment of this subsection, whether through sale, exchange, or loan, until the Secretary has submitted to Congress a certification that—

“(A) the United States is meeting the Paris Climate Accords targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

“(B) the recommendations of the Justice40 initiative, established under Executive Order 14008, are being met.

“(2) CONSULTATION.—In submitting a certification to Congress under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall consult with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Secretary of State, and the heads of any other relevant Federal agencies.

“(3) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after the Secretary submits to Congress a certification under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report outlining—

“(A) any progress made to meet the targets of the United States to the Paris Climate Accords; and

“(B) how funds made available under or by Public Law 117-169, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58), and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2) are being used to confront decades of underinvestment in disadvantaged communities that bear the burden of climate change and environmental hazards.”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MR. MCCORMICK

AMENDMENT No. 17: Page 3, line 9, strike the closing quotation mark and the final period.

Page 3, after line 9, insert the following:

“(4) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 90 days after the plan under paragraph (1) is developed, the Secretary shall implement such plan.”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MR. LEVIN

AMENDMENT No. 18: Page 3, line 9, strike the closing quotation mark and the final period.

Page 3, after line 9, insert the following:

“(4) OFFSHORE EXCLUSIONS.—The plan required by paragraph (1) shall not include oil and gas leasing in any tract located in the Southern California planning area.”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MR. LEVIN

AMENDMENT No. 19: Page 3, line 9, strike the closing quotation mark and the final period.

Page 3, after line 9, insert the following:

“(4) INSPECTION FEES.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the plan shall not include any leases on the Outer Continental Shelf unless the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, certifies that well inspection fees assessed for a fiscal year on oil and gas wells in the Outer Continental Shelf will fully cover the cost of Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement inspections of such oil and gas wells in the subsequent fiscal year.”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MR. LEVIN

AMENDMENT No. 20: Page 3, line 9, strike the closing quotation mark and the final period.

Page 3, after line 9, insert the following:

“(4) PUBLICATION REQUIRED.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the plan shall not include any leases on Federal lands unless the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, publishes—

“(A) the identity of each Federal oil and gas leaseholder and operator on a public website; and

“(B) information on all lease transfers and lease stipulations.”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MR. LEVIN

AMENDMENT No. 21: Page 3, strike lines 1 through 5 and insert the following:

“(2) LIMITATIONS.—The plan required by paragraph (1) shall not—

“(A) provide for a total increase in the percentage of Federal lands described in paragraph (1) leased for oil and gas production in excess of 10 percent; or

“(B) provide for an increase in Federal lands described in paragraph (1) that would not provide a fair return for taxpayers.”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MS. JACOBS

AMENDMENT No. 22: Page 3, line 9, strike the closing quotation mark and the final period.

Page 3, after line 9, insert the following:

“(4) ECONOMIC EXCLUSION.—The plan required by paragraph (1) shall not provide for oil and gas leasing in any tract on the Outer Continental Shelf where oil and gas leasing would adversely impact the tourism economy and coastal communities and businesses of California.”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MR. THOMPSON OF CALIFORNIA

AMENDMENT No. 23: Page 2, line 3, insert “and Conservation” before “Response Act”.

Page 2, line 4, insert “AND CONSERVATION” after “INCREASE”.

Page 2, line 15, strike “plan to increase” and insert “plan—”.

Page 2, line 15, before “the” insert the following:

“(A) to increase

Page 2, line 25, strike the period at the end and insert “; and”.

Page 2, after line 25, insert the following:

“(B) to offset any drawdowns of petroleum products in the Reserve with measures that reduce the demand for oil.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MS. BARRAGAN

AMENDMENT No. 24: Page 3, line 5, strike the period at the end and insert “, nor shall it include any Federal land a boundary of which is within 3,200 feet of a residence, school, or hospital.”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MRS. LEE OF NEVADA

AMENDMENT No. 25: Page 3, line 2, strike “provide for a” and insert “provide for—”.

Page 3, line 2, before “total increase” insert the following:

“(A) a

Page 3, line 5, strike the period at the end and insert “; and”.

Page 3, after line 5, insert the following:

“(B) an increase in Federal lands described in paragraph (1) that have no or low potential for oil and gas development.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MR. PANETTA

AMENDMENT No. 26: Page 3, line 9, strike the closing quotation mark and the final period.

Page 3, after line 9, add the following:

“(4) OFFSHORE EXCLUSIONS.—The plan required by paragraph (1) shall not include oil and gas leasing in any tract located in the Central California planning area.”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MS. MANNING

AMENDMENT No. 27: Page 2, line 16, strike “including” and insert “not including”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MS. MANNING

AMENDMENT NO. 28: Page 3, line 5, strike “10” and insert “1”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MS. SPANBERGER

AMENDMENT NO. 29: Page 3, line 9, strike the closing quotation mark and the final period.

Page 3, after line 9, add the following:

“(4) OFFSHORE EXCLUSION.—The plan required by paragraph (1) shall not include oil and gas leasing in any tract located off the coast of Virginia.”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MS. MACE

AMENDMENT NO. 30: At the end, add the following:

SEC. 3. NO OIL AND GAS LEASING ON CERTAIN FEDERAL LANDS.

During the period that begins on the date of enactment of this Act and ends January 1, 2052, the Secretary of the Interior shall not offer for oil and gas leasing, preleasing, or any related activity any area withdrawn by the Presidential memorandum titled “Memorandum on the Withdrawal of Certain Areas of the United States Outer Continental Shelf from Leasing Disposition” and dated September 8, 2020.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MS. MACE

AMENDMENT NO. 31: Add at the end the following:

SEC. 3. DOE INSPECTOR GENERAL INVESTIGATION.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department of Energy shall submit to Congress a report containing the results of an investigation into all damage to, and increased maintenance requirements for, storage facilities and related facilities of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (as such terms are defined in section 152 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6232)) resulting from all drawdowns of petroleum products from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve occurring after January 20, 2021, including any resulting well remediation, cavern closures, and pipeline and pump replacements.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MRS. BOEBERT

AMENDMENT NO. 32: Page 3, line 9, strike the closed quotation marks and the final period.

Page 3, after line 9, insert the following:

“(4) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary shall submit the plan developed under paragraph (1) to the Committees on Armed Services, Agriculture, Energy and Commerce, and Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Energy and Natural Resources, Environment and Public Works, Armed Services, and Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate.”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MRS. BOEBERT

AMENDMENT NO. 33: Page 3, line 5, strike “10 percent” and insert “15 percent”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MRS. BOEBERT

AMENDMENT NO. 34: Page 3, line 9, strike the closing quotation mark and the final period.

Page 3, after line 9, insert the following:

“(4) CANCELLATION OF WITHDRAWAL OF FEDERAL LANDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the plan required by paragraph (1) shall prevent the Secretary of the

Interior from carrying out the withdrawal described in the notice of proposed withdrawal titled “Notice of Proposed Withdrawal and Public Meeting, Thompson Divide Area, Colorado” and published October 17, 2022.

“(5) The approximately 224,793.73 acres, including approximately 200,518.28 acres of National Forest System lands, approximately 15,464.99 acres of BLM-managed public lands, and approximately 8,810.46 acres of reserved Federal mineral interest within the Thompson Divide area shall not be subject to withdrawal from disposition under United States mineral and geothermal leasing law unless the withdrawal is specifically approved by an Act of Congress enacted after the date of the enactment of this subsection.”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MS. JACKSON LEE

AMENDMENT NO. 35: Page 2, line 11, insert “or a drawdown with respect to which the petroleum products drawn down will be exchanged pursuant to subsection (i),” after “(d),”.

Page 2, line 13, strike “date of enactment of this subsection” and insert “date this paragraph takes effect described in paragraph (4)”.

Page 3, line 9, strike the closing quotation mark and the final period.

Page 3, after line 9, insert the following:

“(4) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Paragraph (1) shall not take effect until the Secretary submits to Congress a report on the necessity of acting under the authority of this section to refill the Reserve.”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MS. JACKSON LEE

AMENDMENT NO. 36: Page 2, line 11, insert “or a test drawdown under subsection (g),” after “(d),”.

Page 2, line 13, strike “date of enactment of this subsection” and insert “date this paragraph takes effect described in paragraph (4)”.

Page 3, line 9, strike the closing quotation mark and the final period.

Page 3, after line 9, insert the following:

“(4) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Paragraph (1) shall not take effect until the Secretary submits to Congress a report on the necessity of acting under the authority of this section to refill the Reserve.”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MS. JACKSON LEE

AMENDMENT NO. 37: Insert on page 2 line 9 following “Except in the case of” insert “Exchanges, which are an authorized procedure for oil acquisitions, or” 42 USC 161(i) or” This amendment allows the beneficial arrangement that exists that allow refiners to acquire crude of higher value than what they will be required to return to the reserve. They can lock in the differential between the current contract price and the future price in outer months and years.

Insert at the appropriate section of the bill the following: This amendment and future amendments shall not go into effect until the Secretary provides a report on the necessity of acting under the authority of this section to refill the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

The program for office is mandated by law to coordinate with the industry on steps taken under title 42 6231

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MS. JACKSON LEE

AMENDMENT NO. 38: Insert on page 2 line 9 following “Except in the case of” insert “Actions taken to prevent or reduce adverse impacts caused by severe domestic energy supply interruptions: 42 USC 6241(h). This is a limited drawdown and sale authority that is limited to 30 million barrels within 90 days or less.

Page 2 Line 13 strike everything to the end of the page. Insert Sales of 100,000,000 barrels or more that occur in less than 36 months shall require a report on the impact on the Strategic Petroleum Reserve

Insert at the appropriate section of the bill the following; This amendment and future amendments shall not go into effect until the Secretary provides a report on the necessity of acting under the authority of this section to refill the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MR. HUIZENGA OF MICHIGAN

AMENDMENT NO. 39: Page 2, line 24, strike “limitation” and insert “limitations”.

Page 3, beginning on line 1, strike paragraph (2) and insert the following:

“(2) LIMITATIONS.—The plan required by paragraph (1) shall—

“(A) not provide for a total increase in the percentage of Federal lands described in paragraph (1) leased for oil and gas production in excess of 10 percent; and

“(B) with respect to any drawdown or sale of petroleum products from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve that occurs during the 5-month period immediately preceding a regularly scheduled Federal general election, require the Secretary to submit in writing to Congress, concurrently with such drawdown or sale, a report detailing the reason for such drawdown or sale.”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MR. GOTTHEIMER

AMENDMENT NO. 40: Page 3, after line 9, insert the following:

“In consultation with these agencies to ensure any such plan will not result in the sale of Strategic Petroleum Reserve reserves to Iran, China, North Korea, or Russia.”

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MR. PERRY

AMENDMENT NO. 41: Page 3, line 9, strike the closed quotation marks and the final period.

Page 3, after line 9, insert the following:

“(4) REQUIREMENTS.—The plan required by paragraph (1) shall include a list of parcels planned to be offered for lease, including, for each such parcel—

“(A) the size of the parcel, by acre;

“(B) the location of the parcel; and

“(C) any permits and approvals necessary to access the parcel and produce oil and gas on the parcel.”.

H.R. 21

OFFERED BY: MS. TENNEY

AMENDMENT NO. 42: Page 2, line 15, strike “Secretary” and insert “Secretary—”.

Page 2, line 15, strike “has developed” and insert the following:

“(A) has developed

Page 2, line 25, strike “(2).” and insert “(2); and”.

Page 2, after line 25, insert the following:

“(B) has submitted to Congress a list of existing regulatory and tax policies that hold back adequate domestic oil and gas production.

Page 3, line 4, strike “(1)” and insert “(1)(A)”.

Page 3, line 7, strike “(1)” and insert “(1)(A)”.

Page 3, line 9, strike the closing quotation mark and the final period.

Page 3, after line 9, insert the following:

“(4) CONSULTATION REGARDING LIST.—The Secretary shall prepare the list required by paragraph (1)(B) in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Defense.”.